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DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

69th NATIONAL CONVENTION

COMMUNICATION

FROM

THE NATIONAL ADJUTANT, DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

TRANSMITTING

THE REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE ORGANIZATIONS 69TH NATIONAL CONVENTION, INCLUDING A REPORT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1989, PURSUANT TO TITLE 44, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 1332 AND SECTION 3 OF PUBLIC LAW 88-504

October 26, 1990.—Refered to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and ordered to be printed, with illustrations

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Section 1332, Title 44, United States Code

NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT OF VETERANS' ORGANIZATIONS; PROCEEDINGS PRINTED ANNUALLY FOR CONGRESS

The proceedings of the national encampments of the United Spanish War Veterans, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, the American Legion, the Military Order of the Purple Heart, the Veterans of World War I of the United States, Incorporated, the Disabled American Veterans, and the AMVETS (American Veterans of World War II), respectively, shall be printed annually, with accompanying illustrations, as seperate House documents of the session of the Congress to which they may be submitted.

[Approved October 2, 1968.]

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

Disabled American Veterans,
Cincinnati, Ohio, October 19, 1990.

Hon Thomas S. Foley,
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Washington, DC.

Dear Mr. Speaker: As business manager of the Disabled American Veterans, and as secretary of its National Convention, I hereby certify as to the authenticity of the reports and the proceedings of our National Convention held in Anaheim, California, July 28–August 2, 1990, and submit them to you through the office of this organization located in Washington, D.C., pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 186 of the 72nd Congress, as amended, to be printed as a House document in accordance with the authorization of section 1332 of title 44, Unites States Code.

The enclosed National Convention proceedings include an independent audit report of all receipts and expenditures as of December 31, 1989, as required by the provisions of section 3 of Public Law 88-504, approved August 30, 1964.

Respectively submitted,

Charles E. Joeckel, Jr.,
National Adjutant.

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NATIONAL OFFICERS

1990–91

National Commander

Joseph E. Andry, 141 Executive Court
Westerville, OH 43081

Senior Vice Commander

Cleveland Jordan, 242 Emerson Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20011

First Junior Vice Commander

Parker B. Rice, 2560 Francisco Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Second Junior Vice Commander

Richard E. Marbes, 1305 S. Clay Street
Green Bay, WI 54301

Third Junior Vice Commander

Thomas A. McMasters, 11965 Steven Drive
Sterling Heights, Michigan 48312

Fourth Junior Vice Commander

Joseph C. Zengerle, 1550 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

National Judge Advocate

Stan Pealer, 3627 Kossuth Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63107

National Chaplain

Rev. Oscar I. Wilkie, 302 S.E. Jefferson
Idabel, Oklahoma 74745

Past National Commander

Vernon V. Cardosi, 18 Riverview Avenue
Saugus, Massachusetts 01906

National Executive Committee

First district: Carl E. Bergstrom, 19 Davidson Road, Framingham, Massachusetts 01701
Second district: Raymond S. Detor, Sr., 5903 Alban Court, Liverpool, NY 13090
Third district: Howard L. Hurd, RFD #3, Box 69-B, Laconia, New Hampshire 03246
Fourth district: William C. Meredith, 631 Roberta Avenue, Dover, Delaware 19901
Fifth district: Nicholas J. Marro, 1021 Ritner Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19148
Sixth district: Thomas H. Bland, 2318 Braddish Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21216
Seventh district: Thomas G. Cook, P.O. Box 3252, Seminole, Florida 34642
Eighth district: Harry A. Dupre, Sr., 151 Louisa Blvd., Lafayette, Louisiana 70506
Ninth district: Frederick G. Strohm, Jr., 4412 Reona Avenue, Sumter, South Carolina 29154
Tenth district: John F. McCullough, 1211 Anzio Lane, Flint, Michigan 48507
Eleventh district: Gary L. Glassburn, 269 Eastwood Avenue, Delaware, Ohio 43015
Twelfth district: Reba L. Eslinger, HCR 58, Box 249-A, Spooner, Wisconsin 54801
Thirteenth district: William L. Warner, 1808 Costigan Drive, Lexington, Kentucky 40511
Fourteenth district: Gerald L. McIntyre, 209 Strand Avenue, Missouri, Montana 59801
Fifteenth district: John A. Hill, 4721 N.E. Indian Creek Road, Topeka, Kansas 66617
Sixteenth district: Charles J. Framiglio, 4932 Alan Avenue, San Jose, California 95124
Seventeenth district: Ernest E. Fender, Sr., 847 S. Lincoln, Casper, Wyoming 82601
Eighteenth district: Hermon T. Harrison, 620 N. Meadows Drive, Chandler, Arizona 85224
Nineteenth district: David W. Dunn, P.O. Box 411, Ferndale, Washington 98248
Twentieth district: Richard L. Sarrazin, 7406 Stagecoach Lane, San Antonio, Texas 78227
Twenty-first district: Harry R. Hoots, P.O. Box 552, Chandler, Oklahoma 74834

Joseph E. Andry, National Commander

Disabled American Veterans, 1990–91

VERNON V. CARDOSI, NATIONAL COMMANDER

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS, 1989–90

NATIONAL OFFICERS

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Saugus, Massachusetts 01906

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National Judge Advocate

Stan Pealer, 3627 Kossuth Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63107

National Chaplain

Rev. Oscar I. Wilkie, 302 S.E. Jefferson
Idabel, Oklahoma 74745

Past National Commander

Billy E. Kirby, P.O. Box 306
Clifton, Texas 76634

National Executive Committee

First district: Carl E. Bergstrom, 19 Davidson Road, Framingham, Massachusetts 01701
Second district: Prospero Sodano, 5110 Avenue "S", Brooklyn, New York 11234
Third district: Howard L. Hurd, RFD #3, Box 69-B, Laconia, New Hampshire 03246
Fourth district: Roy F. Friedman, 512 Bloomfield Avenue, #2E, Caldwell, New Jersey 07006
Fifth district: Nicholas J. Marro, 1021 Ritner Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19148
Sixth district: Harry E. Hughes, Route 4, Box 520, Parkersburg, West Virginia 26101
Seventh district: Thomas G. Cook, P.O. Box 3252, Seminole, Florida 34642
Eighth district: Hollis O. Bridges, 312 Daye Street, Madison, Alabama 35758
Ninth district: Frederick G. Strohm, Jr., 4412 Reona Avenue, Sumter, South Carolina 29154
Tenth district: Russell Spalding, 4902 Palmer Hyw., Britton, Michigan 49229
Eleventh district: Gary L. Glassburn, 269 Eastwood Avenue, Delaware, Ohio 43015
Twelfth district: Desmond C. Fortner, 100 W. Vernon Avenue, Normal, Illinois 61761
Thirteenth district: William L. Warner, 1808 Costigan Drive, Lexington, Kentucky 40511
Fourteenth district: Roger L. Andal, 805 S. Bahnson, Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57103
Fifteenth district: John A. Hill, 4721 N.E. Indian Creek Road, Topeka, Kansas 66617
Sixteenth district: Donald J. Pouliot, 3033 Nute Way, San Diego, California 92117
Seventeenth district: Ernest E. Fender, Sr., 847 S. Lincoln, Casper, Wyoming 82601
Eighteenth district: George Y. Taketa, 9-A West Kawili Street, Hilo, Hawaii 96720
Nineteenth district: David W. Dunn, P.O. Box 411, Ferndale, Washington 98248
Twentieth district: Armando C. Albarran, 10114 Ironside, San Antonio, Texas 78230
Twenty-first district: Harry R. Hoots, P.O. Box 552, Chandler, Oklahoma 74834

PAST NATIONAL COMMANDERS

1921-22: Robert S. Marx, Cincinnati, Ohio (deceased 1960)
1922-23: C. Hamilton Cook, Buffalo, New York (deceased 1935)
1923-24: James A. McFarland, Dalton, Georgia (deceased 1942)
1924-25: Frank J. Irwin, New York, New York (deceased 1942)
1925-26: John W. Mahan, Bozeman, Montana (deceased 1947)
1926-27: John V. Clinnin, Chicago, Illinois (deceased 1955)
1927-28: William E. Tate, Atlanta, Georgia (deceased 1949)
1928-29: Millard W. Rice, Minneapolis, Minnesota (deceased 1980)
1929-30: William J. Murphy, Santa Ana, California (deceased 1931)
1930-31: H. H. Weimer, Chicago, Illinois (deceased 1955)
1931-32: E. Claude Babcock, Washington, D.C. (deceased 1958)
1932-33: William Conley, Los Angeles, California (deceased 1941)
1933-34: Joe W. McQueen, Kansas City, Missouri (deceased 1969)
1934-35: Volney P. Mooney, Jr., Los Angeles, California (deceased 1945)
1935-36: Marvin A. Harlan, El Paso, Texas (deceased 1970)
1936-37: M. Froome Barbour, Cincinnati, Ohio (deceased 1985)
1937-38: Maple T. Harl, Denver, Colorado (deceased 1957)
1938-39: Owen Galvin, Minneapolis, Minnesota (deceased 1956)
1939-40: Lewis J. Murphy, South Bend, Indiana (deceased 1966)
1940-41: Vincent E. Schoeck, Detroit, Michigan (deceased 1966)
  August 16, 1941-August 15, 1943: Lawrence R. Melton, Dallas, Texas (deceased 1978)
  August 15, 1943-September 20, 1943: William J. Dodd, Jersey City, New Jersey (deceased 1957)
1943-44: James L. Monnahan, Minneapolis, Minnesota (deceased 1980)
1944-45: Milton D. Cohn, Buffalo, New York (deceased 1968)
1945-46: Dow W. Walker, Newport, Oregon (deceased 1957)
1946-47: Lloyd F. Oleson, inentura, California (deceased 1982)
1947-48: John L. Golob, Hibbing, Minnesota (deceased 1976)
1948-49: Jonathan M. Wainwright, San Antonio, Texas (deceased 1953)
1949-50: David M. Brown, Akron, Ohio (deceased 1982)
1950-51: Boniface R. Maile, Grosse Pointe, Michigan
1951-52: Ewing W. Mays, Little Rock, Arkansas
1952-53: Floyd L. Ming, Bakersfield, California (deceased 1975)
1953-54: Howard W. Watts, Indianapolis, Indiana (deceased 1977)

1954–55: Alfred L. English, Shelbyville, Tennessee (deceased 1987)
1955–56: Melvin J. Maas, Chevy Chase, Maryland (deceased 1964)
1956–57: Joseph F. Burke, Bayonne, New Jersey (deceased 1970)
1957–58: Paul E. Frederick, Jr., Cincinnati, Ohio
1958–59: David B. Williams, Boston, Massachusetts
1959–60: Bill H. Fribley, Crestline, Kansas
1960–61: William O. Cooper, Dallas, Texas (deceased 1990)
1961–62: Francis R. Buono, Whitestone, New York (deceased 1977)
1962–63: Peter L. Dye, Denver, Colorado
1963–64: Douglas H. McGarrity, Allen Park, Michigan (deceased 1986)
1964–65: William G. Dwyer, San Diego, California (deceased 1982)
1965–66: Claude L. Callegary, Baltimore, Maryland
1966–67: John W. Unger, Sr., Danville, Illinois (deceased 1970)
1967–68: Francis J. Beaton, Fargo, North Dakota (deceased 1969)
1968–69: Wayne L. Sheirbon, Seattle, Washington
1969–70: Raymond P. Neal, Daly City, California
1970–71: Cecil W. Stevenson, Jonesboro, Arkansas
1971–72: Edward T. Conroy, Bowie, Maryland (deceased 1982)
1972–73: Jack O. Hicks, Larue, Ohio
1973–74: John T. Soave, Detroit, Michigan (deceased 1984)
1974–75: Walter T. Greaney, Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts
1975–76: Lyle C. Pearson, North Mankato, Minnesota
1976–77: Frank J. Randazzo, East Meadow, New York
1977–78: Oliver E. Meadows, Godley, Texas
1978–79: Billy O. Hightower, Grand Junction, Colorado
1979–80: Paul L. Thompson, Baltimore, Maryland
1980–81: Stan Pealer, Holts Summit, Missouri
1981–82: Sherman E. Roodzant, Santa Ana, California
1982–83: Edward G. Galian, New York, New York
1983–84: Dennis A. Joyner, Apollo, Pennsylvania
1984–85: Chad Colley, Barling, Arkansas
1985–86: Albert H. Linden, Jr., Camp Springs, Maryland
1986–87: Kenneth G. Musselmann, Huntington Beach, California
1987–88: Gene A. Murphy, Sioux Falls, South Dakota
1988–89: Billy E. Kirby, Clifton, Texas
1989–90: Vernon W. Cardosi, Saugus, Massachusetts

PROCEEDINGS OF THE 69th NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS, HELD AT ANAHEIM, CA

JOINT OPENING SESSION

July 28–August 2, 1990

The Joint Opening Session of the Disabled American Veterans and Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary 69th National Convention convened in the California Pavilion of the Anaheim Hilton Hotel and Towers, Anaheim, California, Sunday afternoon, July 29, 1990, and was called to order at 1:00 o'clock p.m. by Commander Vernon V. Cardosi.

Commander VERNON V. CARDOSI. I now call to order the 69th National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans.

Charles E. Joeckel, Jr., national adjutant, will now read the call to the convention.

Adjutant CHARLES E. JOECKEL, Jr. The Constitution and Bylaws of the Disabled American Veterans state that the supreme legislative powers of this organization shall be vested in an annual national convention composed of the national officers and representatives of the state departments and chapters. In accordance with these directives, I, Charles E. Joeckel, Jr., national adjutant, declare the 69th National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans to be convened at Anaheim, California, at 1:00 p.m., July 29th, 1990.

Consideration and disposition of business brought before this convention shall be conducted in accordance with the National Constitution and Bylaws now in force, and such rules as this convention will adopt.

Commander CARDOSI. Sergeant of the color guard will please post the Colors.

[Presentation of Colors.]

Commander CARDOSI. Ladies and gentlemen, our National Anthem.

[National Anthem.]

Commander CARDOSI. Please join in giving the oath of allegiance of our flag.

[Pledge of Allegiance.]

Commander CARDOSI. Sergeant of the color guard, dismiss the color guard. [Applause.]

I will now call on Rev. Oscar I. Wilkie, our national chaplain, for the invocation.

Chaplain **Oscar I. Wilkie**. Let us pray. Most Holy and Glorious Lord God, we thank You for the opportunity that is ours today to gather in this place with all of its beauty, with all the tradition, with all that the symbolisms mean which we have observed. We realize that all we are, all we ever hope to be is but a gift of Thine.

We thank You especially for the wisdom that You have imbued upon our national commanders as they have led us throughout this year in the interests of disabled American veterans and their families. For those who have been about the business affairs of taking care of our needs, both physically and spiritually, we give You praise.

We thank You, Father, that we have now an opportunity once again to gather, and at the opening of this national convention, we would ask once again that you would imbue with Divine wisdom our commanders, Vernon Cardosi and Shelia Allred that they may indeed be able to lead us in such fashion that we'll be able to go forward with hope and with ultimate victory. In Thy Great and Holy Name. Amen.

Commander **Cardosi**. Please be seated.

Ladies and gentlemen, please join me in thanking the Third Marine Aircraft Wing Band from El Toro, conducted by Master Gunnery Sgt. M. C. Price. [Rising applause.]

I would also like to thank the members of the Department of Arizona Color Guard for posting the Colors. [Applause.]

Winston Churchill once said, "Let us to the task, to the battle and the toil." Churchill, of course, was speaking of the great emergency of World War II. Well, our convention is not an emergency, but it is a task, sometimes a battle, that does challenge us.

And leading us to that task is our national convention chairman, Kenneth Wingett, who has worked so hard to make this year's convention a smooth success. Please join me in welcoming our national convention chairman, who is also the adjutant of Chapter 48 in Santa Rosa here in California, Mr. Kenneth Wingett. [Applause.]

Mr. **Kenneth J. Wingett**. Thank you so much, Commander Cardosi, for the kind introduction, and greetings to Auxiliary Commander Shelia Allred. To all the national officers, delegates, guests and friends, welcome to Anaheim, to the 69th National Convention of the DAV and Auxiliary. We're so glad to host your visit to the home of Mickey Mouse, Minnie Mouse, Goofy, Pluto, Disneyland, the Angels and the Rams. [Applause.]

We hope you will enjoy all the attractions of our area, including Knottsberry Farm, the Queen Mary, the Spruce Goose, and Universal Studios. For information about those things, departure times, places, etcetera, check with the hospitality desk in the lobby.

And please don't miss our California Night, Monday night, 8:00 p.m. in the Pacific Ballroom. No tickets are necessary. [Applause.]

As we kick off our convention, all the DAV and Auxiliary members from this area wish you a productive and successful convention. Like everyone here, the DAV and Auxiliary members from this part of the country recognize the seriousness of the challenge we face, but we also hope you'll take time to enjoy yourself while you're here with us. And if there's anything that we can do to make your visit a pleasant one, please let us know. And thanks a million for coming to Anaheim.

Now, I'm not the only one who wants to welcome you to this part of the country and the world. Anaheim's mayor, Fred Hunter, also wants to say hello. Fred served in the Navy from 1959 to 1962.

He attended Fullerton Community College and spent ten years in the Anaheim Police before he graduated from Western Law School. After practicing law for several years, Fred was elected to the City Council in 1986, becoming mayor two years later.

Would you please join me in welcoming Anaheim's mayor, Fred Hunter. [Applause.]

Mayor **FRED HUNTER**. Thank you, Kenneth.

I joined the Navy when I was 15. Not really. [Laughter.] Welcome to Anaheim, ninth largest city in the great state of California, fifth largest city by assessed market value. We're a rich little city.

But we are home to the Rams and the Angels, the California Angels. Way to go! We need to start winning. And soon to be, starting in October, we're going to build a sports arena right down the street, and we're going to have an NBA basketball team and a hockey team, and hopefully, in about 1996, we'll have the Republican National Convention in the great city of Anaheim. Uh-oh! [Laughter.] Well, it's a nonpartisan office, being mayor of the great city of Anaheim. [Laughter.]

Truly, Disabled American Veterans, to come down here on a Sunday—I just came from church, and the church I go to, we kind of dress casual, so I didn't put my suit on—was well worth coming here just to listen to that Marine Corps Band. Wasn't that great? Absolutely! [Applause.]

And you are welcome always in Anaheim to come back, all you Disabled American Veterans and your families throughout this great country that we live in. And you know, when the band played the National Anthem, to have the Marine Corps Band play it with dignity, was so much greater than that lady that sang in San Diego the other night. [Applause.]

We need to always be dignified when that flag comes down, and we need to always teach and train our children. I have four kids, and I go to the ball game quite a bit and watch the Angels play, and I take my children. And we as adults must pass on that heritage to stand up, to be quiet, to pay respect, and to continue that tradition, because it is you here in this audience, you people—when the man next to me stood up when they played that Marine Corps song, it tells us that we're Americans, and every time I come to a convention like this and welcome people to this city, it says that we are a unified body of people that believe in God, and in our country, and in our families.

Thank you for coming. [Applause.]

Commander **CARDOSI**. Thank you so very much.

Unfortunately, the governor of California was unable to join us today, but he has sent us his greetings. Here to present his remarks is a member of the California Veterans Board and a life member of the DAV Chapter Number 7, Stephen J. Vecellio. [Applause.]

Mr. **STEPHEN J. VECELLIO**. Commander Cardosi, members of the DAV, I'm proud to present the letter from the governor and from the Department of Veteran Affairs.

To the Disabled American Veterans;

On behalf of the citizens of California, I am pleased to extend my warm regards to all who have gathered for your 1990 National Convention in Anaheim. Through the years, you have been instrumental in providing your members with support and guidance as they work to meet the challenge of the future. You have earned great praise for your successful endeavors and can take great pride in your many achievements and contributions.

Once again, this conference provides a fine opportunity to exchange new ideas and strategies for promoting the goals and objectives of your organization. Your efforts on behalf of veterans throughout the golden state and our nation are most appreciated.

Please accept my best wishes for your most enjoyable and productive 1990 convention.

Most cordially, George Deukmejian, Governor of the State of California.

Commander. [Applause.]

Commander CARDOSI. Thank you so very much, Stephen, for coming.

[Whereupon, Senior Vice-Commander Joseph E. Andry assumed the chair.]

Senior Vice-Commander JOSEPH E. ANDRY. I'd like to preface my introduction of our next speaker with the phrase, "Actions speak louder than words." When it comes to action, getting out there and doing it for the DAV, nobody does it quite better than this guy.

Before he was elected to his current post, he served for four years as a DAV vice-commander. He is a life member of DAV Chapter 115 in Saugus, Massachusetts, where he served as treasurer before he became chapter commander.

He also served as commander of his DAV district in 1979 and 1980, and commander of the DAV Department of Massachusetts in 1983.

He has served as assistant chairman of the Massachusetts Department's Membership Committee, and he's also served on the Massachusetts Governor's Veterans Advisory Committee. That, in itself, speaks of quite a record of action. And I haven't even mentioned that he has served energetically and honorably as our national commander.

Perhaps we should also recognize his wife, Camille, and his sons, who have allowed this disabled veteran of the Korean War to devote so much time and action to the DAV.

Members of the DAV and the DAV Auxiliary, please join me in a warm welcome to our national commander, Vernon V. Cardosi. Vernon. [Rising applause.]

Commander CARDOSI. Thank you, Joe, for that kind introduction.

Delegates to the 69th Convention of the Disabled American Veterans and Auxiliary, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen: During the past year, it has been my honor and privilege to serve as your national commander.

During that time, I have been blessed with the love and support of my wife, Camille, and my children.

I have also been blessed this year to serve in partnership with Shelia Allred, our national commander of our Ladies Auxiliary, to have the support of the Department of Massachusetts and my home chapter, the dedication and commitment of our DAV leadership, and the experience and professionalism of our national staff.

But most importantly, I have been truly blessed by all those individual members of the DAV and DAV Auxiliary who make it work.

I have met thousands of people who find joy in service to others. From them I have discovered a deeper sense of how important serving others can be. I have met thousands of people who take quiet pride in the simple notion of disabled veterans helping disabled veterans.

I have met thousands of individual members of the DAV and the DAV Auxiliary, and I am a better man today for having done so.

The DAV has faced many challenges since we last met in Las Vegas. I am proud to report that we have met those challenges. We have done our duty.

In February, I appeared before Congress and disclosed the existence of a secret VA reform task group. I told the members of Congress that senior VA officials, behind closed doors, were devising methods to cut entitlements, limit eligibility for some programs, and totally eliminating others.

I asked Congress to make the VA open its doors, and I asked each DAV member to contact their senators and congressmen. Today the VA is conducting its deliberations in the open. Today the much-needed review of VA programs and services is moving forward.

Today the process of determining what's best for veterans includes those who most need the system, service-connected disabled veterans. [Applause.]

The VA is now on the right course because thousands of DAV members took the time to write or call their congressman. Thousands of DAVers and their families demanded their right to be a part of the process.

As a result, we discovered that some members of Congress didn't seem to be aware of the guaranteed rights of citizens to petition Congress. They actually complained about all the mail they were getting on the subject from the same people who elected them in the first place.

Others quickly sensed that the people had spoken on this particular issue, and those members of Congress were equally quick in demanding the VA conduct its deliberations in public. In the process, they praised DAV members for doing what so few other Americans do; we got involved. To my mind, the result was government at its best, the teamwork of elected officials and citizen-advocates working together to right a wrong.

Teamwork was also evident in the chapters and departments I visited this year. During my travels, I visited chapters that have developed terrific programs of service, thanks to teamwork. I saw departments start state-wide programs that earned the DAV high praise, thanks to teamwork. I saw more and more examples of the power of the people working together for the common good.

Teamwork is why, a couple of months ago, the DAV surpassed the 900,000 mark for life members. [Applause.] Today, four out of five DAV members are life members. They've signed up for life on a very special team.

When I think about teamwork, though, there's one area in which both the DAV and Auxiliary really shine. It is the teamwork shown by our volunteers in programs around the nation. It's no accident that this year our theme is DAV and DAV Auxiliary Volunteers—Meeting Tomorrow's Challenges.

We face a future that will demand more from us and our volunteers. Today, VA hospital directors make no secret of the fact that they could not operate without the help of volunteers.

There's no reason to think the need for those volunteers will be any less in the future. In fact, just the opposite is true. More and more veterans are growing older and sicker. More and more budget pressures are being placed on the VA. More and more efforts are being made to cut programs and services and deny access to quality care.

The fight may be waged in Washington, but the battle will be won on the homefront. In the end, our volunteers are making the real difference, one patient at a time, one simple act of kindness after another.

I am reminded that the greatest gift of all is the gift of ourselves, giving ourselves in service to each other and our nation. During my year as your national commander, I witnessed this gift many times. The people who give it, our volunteers, seek nothing in return.

But I know they deserve at least our thanks, and most assuredly our continued support. Importantly, they need others to help, and the VA needs more volunteers, with more skills to help where help is needed. The DAV is proud of its members who have heeded this call for help and signed on as VAVS volunteers. They truly are giving the greatest gift of all.

To mark their contributions and help in national efforts to recruit new volunteers, the DAV has produced a short film we hope will encourage others. As I close my report to you, the members of the DAV and DAV Auxiliary, I invite you to watch this premier showing of this film with me. Please share with me the pride in knowing those who give the greatest gift of all. [Applause.]

[Video presentation.]

Commander CARDOSI. If some people didn't know it before, I hope there are those in this room who now appreciate how special our volunteers are. Today I want all of you to know how special you've been to me.

As I complete my year as national commander, I'm reminded of another very special national commander. This year we lost one of the finest men to ever wear the DAV cap. I'm speaking, of course, of Bill Cooper, who served the DAV as its national commander from 1960 to 1961. Earlier this year, Bill died suddenly in Paris while returning home following a visit with Soviet veterans' organization officials.

Bill was working for the DAV right up until the end. Two years ago, in one of the most moving moments I have ever experienced, Bill Cooper stood at this podium to nominate fellow Texan Billy Kirby for national commander. Let me quote Bill's own words.

"I have been privileged to serve this organization in many parts of the country and the world, and in many capacities," Bill said. "It's such a privilege to be a part of an organization whose purpose makes it possible for them to answer the anguished cry of Cain—I am my brother's keeper—and whose service makes it possible for us to follow the admonition of the Sermon on the Mount. We do render unto the least of these, our brethren.

"I have started my 81st year, the autumn of my life. And through the DAV, I have been allowed to grow old gracefully and to feel at times a sense of usefulness."

Thank you, Bill, for your service to your country and the DAV.

In the twilight of my term as national commander, I trust I have fulfilled the legacy of those who have served before me. That is, to have done my very best to serve you. And thank you for permitting me the honor to serve as your national commander.

Thank you. God bless you, and God bless America. [Rising applause.]

Senior Vice-Commander **Andry**. Commander Cardosi, we'd like to really thank you for the leadership that you've provided for us this year, and also for the friendship that you've shared with everybody, not only here, but throughout the United States. Thank you.

Ladies and gentlemen, the Chair will now entertain a motion to accept the national commander's report. Don Pouliot.

NEC **Pouliot**. Don Pouliot, District 16, San Diego, California, moves that the report of our distinguished commander be accepted by this convention.

Senior Vice-Commander **Andry**. Thank you, Don.

Joe Harold.

Mr. **Harold**. Joe Harold, Boston 10, seconds it.

Senior Vice-Commander **Andry**. We've got a motion and it's been duly seconded to accept the national commander's report. All in favor, signify by Aye; all opposed, same sign. Motion carried.

[Whereupon, Commander Cardosi resumed the chair.]

Commander **Cardosi**. Thank you very much, Joseph Andry. And Joe, thank you for being my friend.

Now, I would like to introduce your line officers, and if you would, could you hold your applause until I have them all introduced?

First, my main man, my national senior vice-commander, Joseph E. Andry of Ohio; our first junior vice-commander, Cleveland Jordan of the District of Columbia; 2nd Junior Vice-Commander Parker B. Rice of California; 3rd Junior Vice-Commander Richard E. Marbes of Wisconsin; 4th Junior Vice-Commander Thomas A. McMasters, III of Michigan; our national judge advocate, Stan Pealer of Missouri; National Chaplain—a man who performed masterfully this morning at our memorial service—Rev. Oscar I. Wilkie of Oklahoma; and Immediate Past National Commander—a real good friend—Billy E. Kirby of Texas.

Now you may give them a big applause. [Applause.]

Your National Executive Committee is comprised of the following gentlemen, if we can hold our applause until I have them all introduced: 1st District, Carl E. Bergstrom of Massachusetts; 2nd District, Prospero Sodano of New York; 3rd District, Howard L. Hurd of New Hampshire; 4th District, Roy F. Friedman of New Jersey; 5th District, Nicholas J. Marro of Pennsylvania; 6th District, Harry E. Hughes of West Virginia; 7th District, Thomas G. Cook of Florida; 8th District, Hollis O. Bridges of Alabama; 9th District, Frederick G. Strohm, Jr. of South Carolina; 10th District, Russell Spalding of Michigan; 11th District, Gary L. Glassburn of Ohio; 12th District, Desmond C. Fortner of Illinois; 13th District, William L. Warner of Kentucky; 14th District, Roger L. Andal of South Dakota; 15th District, William C. Slaughter, alternate; 16th District, Donald J. Pouliot of California; 17th District, Ernest E. Fender, Sr. of Wyoming; 18th District, George Y. Taketa of Hawaii; 19th District, David W. Dunn of Washington; 20th District, Armando C. Albarran of Texas; 21st District, Harry R. Hoots of Oklahoma.

And of great assistance to me this year was my national chief of staff, Joseph R. Harold of Massachusetts, and National Surgeon Dr. Maurine P. Johnson of the District of Columbia.

And at this time, I'd like to recognize a distinguished group of men who served this organization and continue to serve this organization. If you will, will all the past national commanders please rise and be recognized. Give them a big hand. [Applause.]

In a few days, I'd like to join that distinguished group.

This introduction to our next speaker is going to be difficult, because I was asked to keep it brief. That's a pretty difficult task in itself, considering the role she has played, or I should say worked, on behalf of the DAV and Auxiliary.

As the daughter of a World War II veteran, she actually joined the DAV at the age of nine. She has been a life member of Auxiliary Unit 27 in Concord, North Carolina, where she has served as junior and senior vice-commander and department commander. She also put in nine years as department judge advocate.

After two years of representing the Fifth District on the Auxiliary National Executive Committee, she chaired all of the organization's major programs as she rose through the junior and senior vice-commander roles.

Again, since I've been asked to keep it brief, I won't mention the work she's done for the American Business Women's Association, her community POW-MIA organization, and the Board of Trustees for the Greater Piedmont Chapter of the National Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Foundation.

DAV and DAV Auxiliary members, please help me welcome our Auxiliary national commander, the first wife of a Vietnam veteran to lead the 200,000 member organization, Shelia Allred. [Rising applause.]

Auxiliary Commander SHELIA ALLRED. Thank you, Commander Cardosi. I want to tell you, Vern, it's been a special pleasure to serve with you over the past year. Many DAV national leaders have championed the Auxiliary, but you're a special case in my view. You're a man with a heart, a heart that's open to our organization and its mission in every way.

Your support of the Auxiliary begins at the unit level and continues with the Department of Massachusetts. Your state's ladies embody the best our organization has to offer. And on the national level, you've carried that vision of the Auxiliary throughout America.

You've done so much for us, Vern, and I want you, your wife, Camille, and your whole family to know that I love all of you very much. Would you please come forward for a presentation?

Vern, this says, "To Vernon V. Cardosi, National Commander, in appreciation for the distinguished service given to the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary." You truly deserve this. [Applause.]

Commander **Cardosi**. Thank you, Shelia, thank you so very much. And you know, I don't care if your husband is so much bigger than I. I love you very much. [Laughter.]

Auxiliary Commander **Allred**. Thank you, Vern.

Delegates to the 69th National Convention of the DAV and Auxiliary, our leaders, our friends and our guests: The film we saw about volunteer involvement touched me very deeply. I was pleased to see women so well represented.

We in the Auxiliary are proud of our volunteer work, and we pledge to meet tomorrow's challenge head-on. We'll increase our numbers and our commitment. We will be there for our veterans. We will be there for their families.

As I watched that movie, I kept thinking of one particular Auxiliary volunteer. She's a very private person, so I'll call her Betty, though that's not her real name. I believe this lady represents everything that's wonderful about our volunteers. Her dedication is a real inspiration to me.

She's eligible for the Auxiliary membership through her father. But her volunteer work is sparked by the memory of someone she knew 20 years ago. When Betty was 19, she was in love with a young man who was fighting for his country in Vietnam. They planned to get married.

But a week before he was slated to come home from the war, the terrible news arrived. He was killed. Betty's dreams were dashed. Her heart was broken. In the years since, she has never married.

This is a sad story. Betty has known sorrow. But isn't suffering intimately involved with the very nature of our organization? The word "disabled" implies that our veterans know the meaning of pain. And our families have shared in that suffering. That knowledge of suffering, that personal experience, is the source of the strength we bring to our work as DAV and Auxiliary volunteers.

As today's film explained, the most important gift we can give is ourselves. In that respect, no one has more to give than disabled veterans and their families.

That's certainly true of my dear friend, Betty. The Vietnam War brought her a deep wound, but her heart is full of love, not bitterness. Her volunteer work gives her an outlet for that love. She brings something special to the veterans in our hospitals and nursing homes because the source of her love is very special.

Another thing about Betty is that she is a woman who came of age during the Vietnam War. She, and other women in her age group, are the Auxiliary's future. You know, I am the wife of a Vietnam vet myself. That's my generation.

As I criss-crossed the country during my term as Auxiliary commander, older women kept asking me how they could get the wives of Vietnam veterans involved. I've thought about that question long and hard. When speaking of tomorrow's challenges, this is one of the most serious that we face.

The coming year will bring a sharp decline in the number of disabled veterans in our country. Yet, as we've seen all too often, numbers are necessary in defending the benefits those veterans have earned.

So as the future approaches, the numerical strength of the Auxiliary will become more important. So will the amount of active involvement our women can generate.

Looking at those future demands, I wish there were some simple answer to those questions about increasing the involvement of Vietnam Era wives. I wish there were some immediate solution.

But there's no quick fix. Yet, I am very encouraged by what's happening in a growing number of Auxiliary units across America. These units are finding the answers that we've all been seeking.

Looking at these ingredients of their success, we'll find they all have a few things in common: First, these units don't let ritual dominate their meetings. They know that today's women, no matter what age they may be, have no time for meetings in which little or nothing is accomplished.

Second, they make their meetings interesting. That may involve bringing in speakers and developing appealing programs, but it also entails focusing meetings on issues that affect the families of disabled veterans.

Third, these units have service-oriented goals, goals related directly to the Auxiliary's purpose. That means special emphasis on disabled veterans like the veterans in our own lives, with careful concern for families like our own.

Fourth, and this is very important, most of these units have at least one Vietnam generation wife who took the initiative to bring other Vietnam Era families into the picture. In the process, she began to build the nucleus of tomorrow's leadership.

Finally, when younger women started to get active in these units, they were able to bring about some changes, changes that helped make things in their unit more attractive to other women their age.

Change is a tough subject, we all know that. I've seen a lot of change in the Auxiliary since I was nine years old. And believe me, none of it ever came easy. People don't like change, and Auxiliary members aren't the exception to the rule.

Yet change is necessary for growth. We have to be open to new ideas. Sometimes we must set aside things that don't work in favor of things that do. And, let's face it, there's adventure in striking out on new paths. We should embrace that adventure with enthusiasm.

As we face the challenges of tomorrow, I ask our Auxiliary members to meet the future with renewed openness. If we do, the disabled veterans in our lives will reap the rewards. So will our own families. What's at stake is very personal, for you, for me, for each of us.

As my year as Auxiliary national commander draws to a close, I'm convinced that the DAV and Auxiliary share the prospects of a bright future. Together, our organizations will walk forward in partnership, meeting the challenges of tomorrow in new and exciting ways.

Our past has given us deep sources of strength from which we can draw. And we'll use that strength as we build a future filled with promise.

In just a few short days, I'll step out of the spotlight that I've enjoyed for the past 12 months. I must tell you that this year has been the high point of my life. And I thank every DAV and Auxiliary member who made this time so special.

But I hope the coming year will be even more special, not only for the woman who will succeed me as Auxiliary national commander, but for every veteran in the DAV and every woman in the Auxiliary.

I thank you. I love you. It has been my great privilege to serve you, and I hope I have served you well. And I'll always be grateful to you for the wonderful, wonderful honor you have given me. Thank you so very, very much. [Rising applause.]

Now I would like to introduce the women who served with me during the past year. And, if you would, please hold your applause until they've all been introduced.

National Senior Vice-Commander Myrtice Vinson from Georgia; National First Junior Vice-Commander Claudia Roy of New Hampshire; National Second Junior Vice-Commander Barbara Maldet from Pennsylvania; National Third Junior Vice-Commander Bonita Newell of Colorado; National Fourth Junior Vice-Commander Barbara Hicks from Ohio; National Judge Advocate Lelia McGinnis of California; National Adjutant Maria Tedrow from Ohio; National Chaplain Margaret Hass from North Dakota; our convention chairman, Bea Vieira from California.

And also I would like to introduce our immediate past national commander, our rose, Rose Schlipp.

You may give them a round of applause. [Applause.]

Now, I'm not going to read the names of all our National Executive Committeewomen, but would you please stand for recognition. [Applause.] Thank you.

Also, we, too, have a group of very, very special women in our organization that has worked very, very hard and is truly dedicated. Would all the Auxiliary past national commanders please stand? [Applause.]

And if you would allow me, there are two very special people in my life that had it not been for them and their support, I would not have been able to fulfill my duties as national commander this year, and those very special people are my husband, Jim Allred, and my daughter, Tara. [Applause.]

Thank you so much for your attention. [Applause.]

Commander CARDOSI. Now you know how special Shelia Allred has been to me. Thank you, Shelia. You've done an outstanding job as national commander. And the best wishes I could give to any future national commanders is they work together as you and I have, and we can really do wonders for this great organization. Thank you, Shelia, and I love you very much, Shelia. [Applause.]

DAV and Auxiliary volunteers. They're meeting tomorrow's challenges, as Commander Allred pointed out so well. Thank you, Shelia, for your leadership and your commitment.

Volunteers come in all sizes and shapes, from different walks of life. It is my pleasure now to introduce to you one of the newest volunteers to join the ranks of those in service to disabled veterans.

Some of you know her from her TV series work. Others have seen the three-time Emmy nominee and Golden Globe winner in any number of film and TV movies and mini-series, while still others of you know her as one of the ladies voted Most Admired Women by Good Housekeeping's 1990 poll.

Actress, singer, please join me in welcoming Miss Ann Jillian. [Rising applause.]

Miss ANN JILLIAN. Thank you. Thank you very much. Wow! If you don't mind, I'm just going to take myself around here. I thought I'd just take the long way around, because there's a little bit of a space in between the platform that I was on. I thought maybe I'd get down there, and I didn't want to do that.

But I am so happy to be here. [Applause.] Now, all of you are here in Hollywoodland, so to speak, a little bit outside of it, but you know what Johnny Carson would say if in fact he said, "I'm so happy to be here," right? You guys would say, "How happy are you?" Okay? So we're going to rehearse a little bit.

All right. I am so happy to be here.

[Response of "How happy are you?"]

Miss JILLIAN. Oh, they're good. [Laughter.] I was as happy as an Avon lady that just rang the bell and had Tammy Bakker answer the door. [Laughter and applause.] Oh, good! You liked that, huh? We'll keep it in. Yes. I shouldn't make fun of her, though, just because she doesn't know how to wear makeup. [Laughter.]

Anyway—no, no, no, no. Really, I am indeed extremely very, very happy to be here, and thank you so much for such a lovely introduction, Commander. Thank you so much, all of you. As my song suggested earlier, I'm really here to make a commitment to the DAV to do whatever I can and whenever I can, because of my heartfelt love for you.

And it kind of brings to mind a parable that I heard in my church. I'll hook it up for you later, but it starts out like this. It's about a gentleman who's caught in a flood, and the water's up to his knees, and a guy in a canoe comes by, and he says, "Come on, hop in, and I'll save you."

And the guy says, "No, thanks. I believe the Good Lord will save me."

He says, "Okay," and goes on.

Well, the next thing you know, the water is up to his waist, right? And a guy in a motorboat comes by, and the guy says, "Come on, give me your hand and I'll pull you in, and I'll save you."

And he says, "No, thank you. I believe the Good Lord will save me."

He says, "Okay, okay."

So now the water is up to his neck, and a guy in a helicopter comes by, throws down a line and says, "Grab hold of the line, I'll pull you up, and I'll save you."

And the guy says, "No, thanks. I believe the Good Lord will save me."

Well, there's good news and there's bad news. The bad news, of course, is that the man drowned, but the good news is that he got to the Pearly Gates. [Laughter.] And once he was in the Pearly Gates, he was ushered in. He was introduced to Our Father, and he got down on his hands and knees, and he says, "Oh, Father, I've loved you all my life." He says, "I've obeyed all of Your commandments. I'm just curious. Why is it that when I was on earth and I said that You were going to help me out, that I'm up here now?"

And Our Father chuckled, and he said, "My son, I sent you a canoe, a motorboat and a helicopter. What do you want from me?" [Laughter and applause.]

Well, the moral of the story is—I'll hook it up for you—that we are all someone's canoe, motorboat or helicopter. Yes, we are. [Applause.]

And I just recently had an opportunity to see first-hand the excellent work that all of you people do. In my husband's family there's a great old sailor who just found that the waters got a bit rough for him a bit lately, and they had to pull into shore, so to speak. And there was the DAV welcoming him with open arms. And I knew exactly right then that I had to be a part of this wonderful, heartwarming organization in some way.

So I visited my very first hospital in Care Center Home in Miami just this last May the 21st, and I got to see some of the pretty great people who were there, who were very, very dedicated to helping those dear, dear people in need, those dear, dear people who sacrificed and risked an awful lot for all of us.

And I got my honorary Trench Rat pin to prove it, which I wear very proudly right here, yes sirree, from a very, very dear gentleman there. I recall being thanked an awful lot while I was there, but that seemed a little strange to me, not that—I mean, I accepted it really very thankfully and very gratefully, but it seemed strange since they did so much, and so many are out there willing to continue doing so much.

Because while they were thanking me, what they didn't realize was that I am a daughter of a Lithuanian Air Force captain who, along with my mother and my brother, were forced to flee their homeland when the Russians took over. And I got to know from them what it's like to lose one's freedom.

So I thank God for all the DAV who made sure that my family had a place to come to, where they could be free. And I know what our people were fighting for and exactly what they protected for all of us.

I have no more words, really, to describe my heartfelt feelings for all of you in the DAV, but perhaps a song that I had the pleasure to sing off of the coast of Beirut, Lebanon for our peace-keeping troops as a part of the USO program with my mentor, the great Mr. Bob Hope. We tried to find a song that, during the Christmas of 1983, would bring a message of love and how we feel to the guys out there during Christmas.

And that was all done before—I'm proud to say I introduced this song back there in Christmas of 1983 on TV, because it was done long before Lee Greenwood and Bette Midler did their wonderful renditions and got their hit records of the song. I didn't make a hit record of the song. [Laughter.] Yes, story of my life; a day short and a dollar short. But that's okay.

Anyway, I was very pleased to sing the song. There I did it with just a piano; here I'm going to do it a cappella, because the words are so incredibly meaningful, and I've sung it for many different reasons because they apply.

But I'd like to dedicate this song today to you, Commander, and to all of you here, to Mr. Bruce Nitsche, to the good Irving Unger, our Miami saint of the DAV, and this is for all of you. Excuse me.

[Song, followed by rising applause.]

Ms. **JILLIAN**. God bless.

Commander **CARDOSI**. Ladies and gentlemen, join me in giving a great applause to a great lady, Ann Jillian. [Applause.]

I don't know if she realized, but that's been the theme of Shelia Allred, our national commander, "The Wings Beneath My"—"Beneath My Wings," yes, I got it. [Laughter.] If Frank Sinatra didn't record it, I don't know it. [Laughter.]

Anyway, I want to thank Ann Jillian for being here, and I can imagine what a great thrill it is when she visited the VA hospitals, what a great pleasure it is for our patients. Thank you again, Ann Jillian. [Applause.]

Each year we are proud to recognize the efforts of DAV and Auxiliary VAVS volunteers through the George H. Seal Memorial Award. This year it's presented to two members, one from the DAV and one from the Auxiliary, who have especially gone beyond the line of duty in their volunteer work for the VAVS.

The award is named after a man many of us knew and loved and remember today, George H. Seal. For more than ten years, George served as DAV's national VAVS representative. He was also a member of the National VAVS Advisory Committee for many years.

This year, to assist me in presenting these two very special volunteer awards, I would like to introduce a man whom many of you met last year, Kevin Dobson, star of TV's "Knots Landing." [Rising applause.]

Mr. **KEVIN DOBSON**. Thank you very much. No kisses. [Laughter.] Welcome, and thank you for a nice introduction. Wouldn't you just love to hear Ann Jillian sing the National Anthem? [Applause.] Not me; forget it!

This year's George H. Seal Memorial Award recipients are Spencer B. Jackson and Lillian M. Golino.

Spencer, known as the "King of Volunteers" at the Baltimore VA Medical Center, gave over 14,000 hours of volunteer time visiting patients, escorting them to medical appointments, and running errands for them.

Let me read a quote from the chief of voluntary services at the facility, R. David Edwards. Mr. Edwards said:

> Spencer's willingness to serve, his versatility and sincere dedication to the overall mission of quality service to all veterans is an inspiration to everyone. He is never too busy to help patients, to listen, and to personally escort them to the area where help is available.

Let me add that Spencer exemplifies the energetic level and quality of care and commitment our volunteers give to hospitalized veterans.

Lillian Golino, our other George H. Seal Award recipient, has worked over 17,400 volunteer hours at the Martinez, California VA medical facility.

Her volunteer work is best summed up by Kari Whyte, chief of volunteer services at the hospital, and I quote:

> Trying to explain Lillian Golino is like trying to explain love itself. Her only criteria for doing something seems to be that it will lessen another's burden. Her enthusiasm and dedication goes above and beyond what they normally do.

I'd like to note that Lillian works with terminally ill patients at the hospital. Her delightful sense of humor and deep compassion comforts patients and lessens their pain during their remaining days.

I can't tell you how proud I am to present the George H. Seal Memorial Trophy to these two outstanding volunteers. They are an inspiration to us all. So please welcome—Lillian and Spencer, please come forward. [Rising applause.]

Mr. SPENCER B. JACKSON. I want to thank everybody at Lockraven and all volunteers for backing me up, and for George Hazar for coming with me to show me the way to save me from getting lost. [Laughter.] He's one of the fellow representatives for the VA. Thank you. [Applause.]

Mrs. LILLIAN M. GOLINO. Oh, I got a kiss! How about that? I want to thank you all for selecting me to win this George H. Seal Award. It's really an honor and I'm deeply grateful.

I'm also very happy to have with me today our chief of voluntary services here, Karma K. Whyte, and thank her very much for putting me in as a selectee. She also has her son with her, who's a hundred percent disabled veteran and a life member of the DAV, and he's my adopted son. He calls me his other mother.

I also have all my children here today, and I'm so happy: My son Ron and his wife, Marie; my son Richard, who is a life member of the DAV; my son Roger and his wife, Debbie; my daughter Madeline, who's a life member of the Auxiliary; my daughter Michelle and her husband, Aaron, and Michelle is a life member of the Auxiliary also. I also have my sister, who's a life member, and her husband, Ken. Can I remember them all? [Laughter.] And my two nieces, Diane and Donna, that live here in the Southern California area.

I'm so happy to have all of them here with me today, as well as all of my friends in the DAV Auxiliary, and the DAV, and I want to thank them all for being here and sharing this moment with me. Thank you. [Applause.]

Mr. DOBSON. You know, it's a commitment, as I just described, by two wonderful people that allows me to do the little that I do as being a volunteer. They are a prime example of what volunteerism should be.

But one of the most impressive things that I always see whenever I visit one of the 172 VA facilities is not only the DAV involvement, but also—I mean, it's the smile on a volunteer's face, when you walk through the doors of a facility, and you see that glow sitting over there on the right-hand side of the room—it just happens to be over there—and you know what that smile is.

And I just want to feel that I can partake and want to understand where that comes from. And it comes from giving, just giving back, helping someone else out of my own self into someone else.

Thank you for the privilege of this association, and I hope I can do what you do, just be an example. Thank you. [Rising applause.]

Commander CARDOSI. Thank you so very much, Kevin Dobson, for being with us, and I know we're going to see him tonight.

Thank you again, Kevin Dobson. Let's hear it for Kevin Dobson. [Applause.]

Overcoming disability is the essence of the next individual I'd like to bring up here. But, believe me, I don't have to bring him up here; he gets around very well by himself, despite losing both of his legs below the knee in Vietnam in 1971.

This Maryland native is an outstanding athlete who has shared his challenges in sports with both the disabled and the able-bodied to inspire them and educate them about the plight of the disabled. His volunteer work with the "Disability Awareness Project" in the Howard County, Maryland School System is just one example.

A life member of the National Amputee DAV Chapter 76, he has also appeared before the public and on radio and TV to talk about his experiences in track and field, wheelchair volleyball, skiing and auto racing. He is a ski instructor for the National Handicapped Sports Association and a national amputee record-holder in the shot put, discus and javelin.

You've seen him before in a Du Pont Company television commercial that featured him playing stand-up basketball on artificial legs with able-bodied players. Before I ask him to come up to the podium, I'd like for you to watch this brief film about a man who, through his disability, found and shared a part of himself that had previously been hidden inside.

[Film presentation.]

Commander CARDOSI. I feel honored to introduce to you such a fine human being, and I stress the word "human." Members of the DAV and DAV Auxiliary, please welcome our Outstanding Disabled Veteran for 1990, Bill Demby. [Rising applause.]

> The Disabled American Veterans proudly presents the National Commander's Award to the Outstanding Disabled Veteran of the Year, Bill Demby, July 29th, 1990, for conspicuous and meritorious efforts in overcoming severe service-connected disabilities to the end that you have achieved success and a high order of accomplishment in your vocational effort of choice.
>
> Further, that such consistent and noteworthy accomplishments will ever serve as an inspiration and challenge to your comrades.

And I'm proud to sign it, "Vernon V. Cardosi, National Commander," and it's signed by Charles E. Joeckel, Jr., National Adjutant.

Bill, congratulations. You're an inspiration to all of the disabled veterans. [Applause.]

Mr. BILL DEMBY. This is probably one of the first times since I've been a public speaker in the last three years that I'm sort of lost for words. I'd like to thank each and every one of you who have given me this award. I will hang this in my house where you can see it as you walk through, and be very proud of it.

Bill Demby didn't get here by himself. There were a lot of people: My mother, a very strong woman, who always kept pushing me to be the best. I'd also like to introduce you to two who are here with me tonight, my wife, Toni, and my daughter, Krishon. [Applause.] That sort of keeps me going straight, any time you have two women in the house—and for you men, you know what I'm talking about. [Laughter.]

It is a pleasure to be here this afternoon to accept this award, but I also want you to think about others, the others that can't be here tonight with us, the 2500 who are still missing, the thousands who have not rehabilitated themselves from the Vietnam War.

I had a chance to visit a couple of vet centers. One particular sticks in my mind in Wilmington, Delaware, where I met this young man who had gone through a couple of marriages, numerous jobs, and he's still unemployed, and I asked him one question. I said, "How is it that you haven't adjusted 20 years later?"

And he looks at me real strange, and he says, "You're asking me to trust a system that put me in this situation."

And I sat there, and I thought, it sounds good to me. You know, I was trying to think of some words that would encourage him to go on. And the only thing that I could think of is, it's not necessarily for you to trust a system, but you use the system to get where you want to go. That's what I passed on to him. [Applause.]

During this year where we have budget cuts, the S and L scandals, vets like yourselves losing benefits, it is time that we tell the people in Congress and our President—and I should use his words, "Read my lips. Charity starts at home." [Applause.]

As you heard in the film, I have a motto, "You win when you try," and as I go out and speak across the country, everybody wants to challenge Bill Demby to a basketball game. [Laughter.] And I know that I'm going to beat some of you able-bodied guys. I'm going to beat some of you. But there are many that I know I won't beat as far as the score is concerned, but I win when I walk out out on the court and ready to play. [Applause.]

Again, I would like to thank you for this award. I'd like to leave you with a few things. One that I'd like to leave you with is the way I look at life. To me, life is a basketball game, and like in any game, you prepare yourself. But in order to win the game, you have to play. I decided to play the game, and I've won. [Applause.]

I would like to leave you something that my mother always told me. She said, "It doesn't matter what you be in life, but you always try to be the best, and if you ever make it to the top, reach back and pull someone along with you."

I have not made it to the top yet, but coming in or traveling around the country talking to people like yourselves, school kids, college kids, that's my way of reaching back and pulling them along with me. [Applause.]

So, again, I would like to thank you for this award. This is one that I will cherish for the rest of my life, and please remember these words: Always, regardless of what the odds are, play the game. Thank you very much. [Rising applause.]

Commander CARDOSI. "Wings Beneath My Wings," I'll never forget that, Shelia. [Laughter.]

At this time, I'd like to introduce our DAV Auxiliary commander, Shelia Allred, for introductions and presentations of Outstanding Auxiliary Members of the Year Award. Shelia Allred. [Applause.]

Auxiliary Commander ALLRED. Thank you, Commander.

We have a very special presentation to make, and for this presentation, I would like to introduce to you a very dedicated lady to the organization. She has worked very hard down through the years, and she is one of our very elite past national commanders, Sally Wilton. [Applause.]

Past Auxiliary Commander **Sally Wilton**. As Shelia said, this is a new award. It is a Past National Commander's Award for the Outstanding DAV Auxiliary Member of the Year. Along with the name of this lady came 48 pages of paperwork all about her activities. Ninety percent of that paperwork was verification that she really had done this work.

We have chosen a lady who has made a real difference in the lives of all she meets. There are so many things that this lady does to make life better for the people in her county that it would be impossible to state them all here. She is compassionate, caring and seeks nothing for herself. With tears and laughter, she does the things she can to ease the needs, pain and sorrow of others.

It is often said by the people in her county that God must have sent her and her husband here in retirement for just that purpose.

This lady is a person that can make a pauper feel like a king and make the busiest person feel that they should give more. She can turn tears into laughter and make the helpless feel useful. These are the traits that cannot be documented but are very important to bring out the best of any volunteer.

And at this time, I would like to present to you Hazel Meyers, Unit 29 of Maryland. Hazel. [Rising applause.]

As I was sitting by this lady and we were talking, she said, "I don't feel that I really deserve this. I'm not sure that I really deserve this award." This is a great lady, and she truly does deserve it, and it's an honor for me to present this to you, Hazel.

Ms. **Hazel Meyers**. Thank you. Thank you very much. And I am nervous, and believe me, these three people who came before me are a tough act to follow, and if I might, National Adjutant Butch, have a few minutes. I have a big family here. I won't call them each by name.

And I ask the permission of National Commander Cardosi and National Auxiliary Commander Shelia and the national officers and the past national commanders, and each one of you sitting out in the audience who are our most distinguished guests, I would like to introduce my family, who really, really represent what service to their veterans and their families and mankind, and my husband and I personally can vouch for what the Disabled American Veterans and their Auxiliary do when one of their fellow members are in trouble or in need, and for this, these people have formed our family.

I would like to ask all of the people from the State of Maryland to stand, and I applaud you because you honor me by allowing me to receive this award for you. [Applause.]

And Adjutant Butch should have stood, too, because he really belongs to us in Maryland.

And I'd like to introduce you to someone else, the person who gave me the privilege to belong to this organization which has become my whole life. He not only gave me this privilege to join you, but he served his country well, and he loves it dearly. He has traveled every mile I travel. He's given every hour I give. He has done everything you have said I did to get this award, because I cannot drive a car, and he drives me every step of the way.

And that is my husband, Bill Meyers, who is the first junior vice-commander for the Department of Maryland. [Applause.]

And I would like lastly, but not least, to thank this group of prestigious ladies, the past national commanders of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary, who, how I don't know, chose me to receive this award. And I thank them for this, and I'd like to ask you to give me two things; one to give to me and one I'd like to leave with you. I'd like for you to give me the gift of going back to your home and giving to each one of our veterans and your family what my family in Maryland gave to me the many times I've been in need of them, and I'd like to ask you this, and to give you this from me and my husband and my Maryland family, and that is, I ask Our Dear Lord to let there be peace and let it begin with me.

Thank you. [Rising applause.]

Commander CARDOSI. And now welcome with me to the podium the director of membership, Charlie Luttjohann. Charlie. [Applause.]

Mr. CHARLES D. LUTTJOHANN. Thank you. Thank you very much. You know, it's been a pretty exciting day for me. All week I've been walking up and down the halls, and people have been coming up to me and saying, "Hey, Kev, nice to see you. How are you doing, Kevin? Enjoy your work." [Laughter.]

I thought, "What's going on?" "Charlie, Charlie Luttjohann." I said, "I'm the membership director." They'd shake their heads and they'd walk off.

You can imagine what a shock it was for me just a few minutes ago when Kevin Dobson was announced. I looked around, and I thought, "My God! I've got a twin brother!" [Laughter.] I don't know what is so darned funny. I'll tell you, he'd look a lot more like me if he had a hat on, I'll bet. [Laughter.] Sorry, Kevin. Poor guy's going to get a complex over this. I'll stop that.

I just wanted to share something with you today and tell you a little bit of a story before we go into our Membership Awards. It's kind of a tradition at National Headquarters that every June 30th a group of the staff people get together, kind of gather around the computer, talk over old times, feed a few stats in, and wait for the final membership totals to come rolling out.

Well, this year was no exception. We all gathered around the computer, fired a few numbers in there, things that have accumulated over the years, and started shooting the breeze. All of a sudden, this computer started rocking back and forth, jumping around, making noises, just like computers can make. You know those noises, right?

Anyway, all of a sudden there's a big puff of smoke and paper started rolling out the side of this computer. Oh, it was awesome! I'll tell you, all of us stood back, we kind of got back in a corner, and waited for this paper to pile up. And we went over and looked at the final number that appeared at the end of the paper. What do you think it was? I'll tell you: 1,146,718. You know what that represented? The number of members in the Disabled American Veterans organization. That's a heck of a number, isn't it? Yeah. [Applause.]

Well, I'm telling you, we were excited, too. We started jumping around, high-fiving everybody and just having a great time. And finally the thing wore down, and we went on home.

Well, today I was sitting back here, and I was thinking about that—still have a bruise on my hand from one of the high-fives—and I looked out here at this crowded room, and I thought to myself, "Wait a minute." You know, we pushed a bunch of buttons that day and poured some statistics in there and came out with this number. And we were sitting around congratulating everyone and all this.

And I thought, "My gosh!" You know, that computer didn't come up with that number. The people out here, you guys, our members, the people that are working every day keeping their departments and their chapters alive that are providing these programs and services to our disabled veterans that are actually out there doing the recruiting, they're the ones that kicked that number out.

And so I want to right now high-five you guys, and thank you very much. You did a great job. [Applause.]

Now, I want to get down to business. You guys have all done a heck of a job out there, but there's a certain group of people that have excelled, that have actually gone to the very top in their individual divisions and their department divisions and within their chapter divisions.

And what we're going to do is we're going to introduce them today, and we're going to provide them awards, and I'd like to ask that Commander Cardosi would actually make the presentation, and I'll call off the individuals.

Okay. Our first award winner today is someone that's been up on stage about as much as our national adjutant. He's become a part of our national conventions, and you're all going to know him when I finally get him introduced here. What I'm going to do though, this particular individual has won two awards this year, and I'm going to call him up only one time, because he's no spring chicken, and I don't want to have to call him up here twice. [Laughter.]

So what I'm going to do is I'm going to tell you what two awards he won, and I'm going to have the commander present them to him, and we're going to have him come up here. Okay?

First of all, he's our top membership recruiter for the third year in a row. He recruited 602 members this year individually. The second award he's going to win is the Top Life Membership Recruiter Award for the fourth year in a row. That's four years that he's been up here. Out of 602 members that he got this year, 601 of them were life members. [Applause.] I don't know what happened to the other one. The guy slacked off or something; I don't know.

In any event, what I'd like to do at this time is to call to the podium here the winner of our Top Membership Recruiter and Top Life Membership Recruiter Awards, Mr. Delbert Nelson. [Rising applause.]

Commander CARDOSI. Congratulations, Delbert. I'm not going to read them. I just want to congratulate you. You do an outstanding job. And Delbert, I'm sure you have a few words to say to the audience. [Laughter.]

Mr. DELBERT NELSON. Are you ready? [Laughter.] Honorable National Commander Mr. Cardosi, what a job you have done. I'm very proud to accept these awards before the 69th DAV National Convention. I love this organization, and pledge to my fellow members my ongoing effort to recruit life members in our organization and welcome—listen to this—my comrades' challenge to beat me out of these awards in the years to come. Thank you. [Applause.]

Mr. LUTTJOHANN. Delbert, they loved your speech. I'm telling you, they loved you, buddy. Did a great job. You did a great job. They loved you, they sucked you up. Let's skip one over here. You know, listen, Delbert, there's something I don't understand, and I'm sure there's a lot of people out here that don't understand it either. We've got 1,146,000 members and you're on top every year. My gosh! What's so special about you? What do you do?

Mr. NELSON. Well, I get up in the morning [laughter], eat my breakfast, get out my membership list, and then I become——

[Film presentation.]

Mr. LUTTJOHANN. Let's hear it for Membership Man. [Applause.] I tell you, he's superhuman, mild-mannered Minnesotan turned Super Membership Man. Listen, I know a lot of you are wondering just what pitch does Super Membership Man use to recruit all these members. We've worked out a little skit for you. I want you guys to take notes, and I want you to use some of these tactics when you get back home.

Membership Man, let's go a little further with this. Let's pretend like I'm a potential member. Yes.

Mr. NELSON. Hi! I am Membership Man.

Mr. LUTTJOHANN. Well hi, Membership Man. How are you?

Mr. NELSON. Fine. We need you to join the DAV.

Mr. LUTTJOHANN. Well, I'll tell you, I'd sure like to, but I'd like to think about it. Can you come back?

Mr. NELSON. No. I'll tell you what I'll do. I'll wait in your backyard and talk to your neighbors. [Laughter.]

Mr. LUTTJOHANN. You're going to talk to my neighbors dressed like that? Okay, I'll join. I'll join. [Laughter and applause.]

That's pretty persuasive, if you ask me. I don't want anybody like this hanging around my yard. [Laughter.]

Well, listen, Membership Man, would you do us a favor and help us present the remainder of the awards today?

Mr. NELSON. Yes, sir! Happy to do so. Let us all reward the true workers of the DAV, the Disabled American Veterans.

Mr. LUTTJOHANN. Thank you very much. [Applause.] I'm sure this is a proud moment for all of Minnesota. [Laughter.]

All right. To continue on with our awards now, the commander and Membership Man will present the awards in the following order. First we begin with the Chapter Awards.

Mr. NELSON. Chapter with the greatest percentage increase, 1989-90 should be censured and engraved, and it is—how's that? [Laughter.] Isn't that what you wanted?

Mr. LUTTJOHANN. Okay. His super contacts are out, so I'm going to go ahead and fill in for him.

This year the chapter with the greatest percentage increase over last year's membership, the winner is Thomas O. Zorn Chapter Number 70, the Department of Georgia, with an increase of 450 percent. That award will be accepted by Bill Coward, the department commander. Come on up, Bill. [Applause.]

Mr. WILLIAM COWARD. If you think I'm going to follow that, you're crazy. [Laughter.] I will accept this on behalf of Chapter 70 in Waycross, Georgia, and want to inspire all of you to go out and get new members. They're there waiting for you to call. Thank you. [Applause.]

Mr. LUTTJOHANN. Our next chapter award for the greatest numeric increase over last year's membership goes to San Diego, California Chapter Number 2, with an increase of 357 members. Michael Warbois, the chapter commander, will accept the award. [Applause.]

Mr. MICHAEL WARBOIS. Thanks, Vern. Appreciate it. I'm glad the wind is under the wings of the San Diego Chapter 2 recruiters. And I stress the "wings." Thanks so much. [Laughter and applause.]

Mr. LUTTJOHANN. This next award is a new award. It hasn't been presented before. And the reason for this award is that there are so many departments now that are coming up with new ideas to recruit members, and that's pretty obvious by the fantastic numbers that we're seeing each year.

What we're going to do this year is we're going to recognize the department for the most original and creative idea for membership recruitment. That award this year goes to the Department of Florida for their program "To Reach Out and Sign up a Member." And to accept that award is Department Commander Curtis West and the immediate past department commander, Tommy Simms, who are responsible for the development of this program. [Applause.]

Mr. CURTIS WEST. Thank you very much. I accept this award on behalf of the Department of Florida. I want to thank all the members who used our theme this year, ROSAM, "Reach Out and Sign a Member." So all of you do that from now on. I thank you very much. [Applause.]

Mr. TOMMY SIMMS. Thank you, Commander Cardosi. Ladies and gentlemen, this is a great honor to stand up here, to be able to stand up here and accept this award in duo with Curtis West, department commander, but we didn't win this award. The Department of Florida people won this award, and I want to thank you, Department of Florida. [Applause.]

Mr. LUTTJOHANN. Let's keep that creativity rolling out there, guys.

Okay. Our next award is the Marx Award. The Marx Award goes to the department with the greatest percentage gain over last year's membership. This year's winner is the Department of Alaska, with an increase of 11.45 percent. To accept the award is Warren Fairbanks, department commander. [Applause.] This is their first year as a department.

Mr. WARREN FAIRBANKS. It's a pleasure to be here today and accept this award for the Department of Alaska. About three months ago, there was some question as to whether I'd be here today or not. This is my second year as department commander, and thanks to National Commander Cardosi who came to visit us for our department convention, national commander for the Auxiliary, Shelia Allred, the national commanders swore me in for this year in the Chapel of the Providence Hospital where I had just had a triple bypass, and it's a pleasure to be here, believe me. And thanks, everybody. [Applause.]

Mr. LUTTJOHANN. That's great!

Next we go to the Division Awards. First award, under Division V, the department with the greatest over-goal percentage goes to South Dakota, an over-goal percentage of 109.53 percent, and the award is accepted by Ted Piti, the immediate past department commander. Let's hear it for them. [Applause.]

Mr. **Ted Piti**. Thank you. Delbert, I concede defeat. I concede victory to you. I'll never catch up to you. I don't have enough years left in me. [Laughter.]

I want to thank South Dakota for all their efforts, each and every chapter. If it wasn't for their hard work, I wouldn't be up here with this plaque. Thank you, South Dakota. Thank you, everyone. [Applause.]

Mr. **Luttjohann**. The Division IV Award for the greatest over-goal percentage goes to my home state, the Department of Kansas, yeah. Over-goal percentage of 101.82 percent. The award is accepted by the department commander, Harry Sackett. [Applause.]

Mr. **Harry Sackett**. I would like to say thanks to Bob Pomeroy, our past commander, for going out and visiting every chapter in the state, and this is what helped get this, and we thank him, and we're going to strive for members next year. We're going to shoot for 10,000. Thank you. [Applause.]

Mr. **Luttjohann**. Under Division III, the winner is the Department of South Carolina, with an over-goal percentage of 108.82 percent. The award is accepted by Fred Strohm, the immediate past department commander. Let's welcome Fred. [Applause.]

Mr. **Fred Strohm**. I don't know about any of you out there, but I have a feeling that this next year's membership program under Mr. Luttjohann is about to take off in a new style. [Laughter.] And I've been back here watching.

For all of our members in South Carolina, who really this award goes to, and to three NSOs, Bud Watkins, Paul Derossett and David Nesbitt, who's unfortunately at home recovering from surgery, joined forces and showed that when the NSO staff gets together with the department and they each support each other, that 100 percent is a very easy goal to reach. Thank you. [Applause.]

Mr. **Luttjohann**. Our Division II winner is the Department of Indiana with an over-goal percentage of 112.36 percent. Fred Sutton, the department commander, will accept the award. [Applause.]

Mr. **Fred Sutton**. Commander Cardosi, this is indeed a great honor for the Department of Indiana to receive this membership award, and I would like to thank all our members in Indiana who have helped us to reach this goal, and especially our national service officers, who have done such an outstanding job in recruiting.

Yes, we in Indiana had a difficult year with our department commander becoming seriously ill in the middle of his term, but with teamwork and cooperation, we accomplished this difficult task, and in the true Hoosier spirit received the checkered flag. Thank you very much, Commander. [Applause.]

Mr. **Luttjohann**. Our Division I winner this year is the Department of New York, with an over-goal percentage of 105.08 percent. Donald Sioss, the department commander, is here to accept the award. [Applause.]

Mr. DONALD SIOSS. Thank you, Commander Cardosi. I'm very proud to be here to accept this award on behalf of the Department of New York. Our members have worked very hard, along with our NSOs, our department staff, all our officers and chapters. Again, thank you. [Applause.]

Mr. LUTTJOHANN. Our next division awards are for departments with greatest percentage increase in life membership. And the Division V winner, a two-time winner this year, the Department of Alaska with an increase of 14.27 percent. Warren Fairbanks, department commander. [Applause.]

Mr. FAIRBANKS. I get to talk to you twice. As long as we're the biggest state in the union, we're going to be the biggest with the membership in the future. For a brand-new department, I think we're doing pretty damn good. [Applause.]

Mr. LUTTJOHANN. We do, too.

Our Division IV winner is the Department of Maine with an increase of 10.55 percent. The award will be accepted by Frank Norris, department commander. [Applause.]

Mr. FRANK NORRIS. Commander Cardosi and the rest of the officers of the National, especially the membership, the great State of Maine, we sure thank you all for such an award, and its responsibility is the membership itself, the officers, and especially our two great NSOs, Gary Burns and Jim Wyatt. Thank you again, gentlemen. [Applause.]

Mr. LUTTJOHANN. Our Division III winner is the Department of South Carolina, another two-time winner, for an increase of 11.84 percent. Fred Strohm, immediate past department commander. [Applause.]

Mr. STROHM. South Carolina and to all of our members, this is theirs. Thank you. [Applause.]

Mr. LUTTJOHANN. The Division II winner this year is the Department of Oklahoma, with an increase of 8.07 percent. The award's accepted by Bill Huber, the department commander. [Applause.]

Mr. BILL HUBER. This is indeed a great honor for me to accept this award in behalf of the Department of Oklahoma. I'd like to thank all the members of the department for the hard work that they've done this past year, also the members of our NSO staff. We like to think that they are probably the best in the country. So thank you, Oklahoma; thank you all. [Applause.]

Mr. LUTTJOHANN. Our next award today is the Wainwright Award. The Wainwright Award is for the department with the greatest numerical gain over the last year. I think this year the award winner has a special—there's something special about them. I'll tell you why, because they're such a quiet, conservative group. And I appreciate people like that. I don't like all this hoopla myself. And all year long we've been working with them, and they've just kind of gone along, they've done their job, and they've not made a big scene about it.

You know, somebody that can make this big of an accomplishment and then come along and not make a big deal of it, I appreciate that. I think you guys do too, don't you? Don't you? Sure. I mean, we don't need to make a big show out of everything. Let's win our awards, let's do our job, and let's get on with the business. That's what it's all about.

This year's winner of the Wainwright Award is the Department of——

[Singing of "California, Here I Come."]

Mr. LUTTJOHANN [Continuing]. Here to accept the award on behalf of the great State of California is Richard "Dick" Jones, department commander; Nash Ramirez, immediate past department commander; and Jack Glowen, the 100,000th member. [Applause.]

Celebrating? Good, because you also won the greatest percentage of increase in life members with 5.98 percent. [Applause.] All right. Special congratulations to the Department of California. [Applause.] Thank you very much.

Mr. RICHARD JONES. On behalf of the 100,000 plus Disabled American Veterans of the State of California, I thank you. [Applause.]

Mr. LUTTJOHANN. I want to do one more thing. I want to recognize the Interim Membership Committee members: Delbert Nelson, our chairman from Minnesota; Paul Thompson; James Friesema; and Jimmy Day. A job well done. Thanks, guys.

Thank you all. [Applause.]

Mr. JACK GLOWEN. I'd just like to say that it's a great honor and privilege to be California's 100,000th member, and I'd like to thank them for this hospitality this weekend and look forward to the future years of service. Thank you. [Applause.]

Commander CARDOSI. What a great achievement, 100,000 members! Congratulations, California.

At this time, I would like to introduce Sid Goldstein, the national commander of the Legion of Valor. He's the holder of the Distinguished Service Cross. Are you out there, Sid? [Applause.]

Now, the adjutant will read the names of the convention committee advisors that I have appointed and who received the approval of the National Executive Committee at its most recent meeting.

Adjutant JOECKEL. The convention committee advisors are: Credentials, Stan Pealer, Charles Luttjohann; General Resolutions, National Security, Americanism and Membership, O. J. Brooks and Richard Schultz; Legislation and Veterans Rights, Verne Nygaard, John Heilman, Charles Thompson; Constitution and Bylaws, Kenneth G. Musselmann, Stephen L. Edmiston; Finance and Dues, Don Pouliot, Charlie Cryder; Employment, Chad Colley, Ronald Drach; Hospital and Voluntary Services, Gregory C. Reed; David W. Gorman; Nomination of National Officers, Nicholas G. Cachianes.

Commander CARDOSI. Thank you, Comrade Adjutant.

Ladies and gentlemen, if you will please rise, I will ask the chaplain to lead us in the closing prayer.

Chaplain WILKIE. Let us pray. Once again, Father, we thank You for the privilege that has been ours to assemble ourselves to gather here. We would ask now that You go with us that we may be able indeed to find refreshment, camaraderie and even further avenues of service one to another. Protect us while we're away, bring us back again with great anticipation, we ask in Thy Great and Holy Name. Amen.

Commander CARDOSI. The convention is now in recess until 10:00 o'clock tomorrow morning. Thank you very, very much.

[Whereupon, the meeting recessed at 3:40 o'clock p.m., July 29, 1990.]

FIRST BUSINESS SESSION

July 30, 1990

The First Business Session of the Disabled American Veterans 69th National Convention convened in the California Pavilion of the Anaheim Hilton Hotel and Towers, Anaheim, California, Monday morning, July 30, 1990, and was called to order at 10:00 o'clock a.m. by Commander Vernon V. Cardosi.

Commander VERNON V. CARDOSI. The convention will now come to order. In opening the First Business of the 69th National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans, it is fitting and proper that we render the respect due to the flag. Please join me in the Pledge of Allegiance.

[Pledge of Allegiance.]

Commander CARDOSI. We will now be led in prayer by our national chaplain, Rev. Oscar Wilkie.

Chaplain WILKIE. Comrades, before the prayer, may I say that yesterday, as I was in one of the necessary rooms, this cane was left there and was being confiscated. I rescued it. It is here for you if you indeed lost it.

Let us pray. Most Holy and Glorious Lord God, we thank You today for the gift of Your Presence. We thank You that You have given to us a vision of Your power over life and death, and a view of everlasting life.

We thank You that You taught us to stand foot to foot, and that by that act we were made to know that we were in Your service; for Your teaching that we should stand knee to knee as a covenant, that we should remember all of our comrades in our supplications and adorations to Deity.

We thank You that You have taught us that the day would come when our arms would be too short, our finite minds too weak, and that Thou wouldst provide wisdom and strength.

We thank You for this wonderful band of men and women who are skilled in the affairs of our organization and in the ways of our government. We thank You for those that we see before us today who have spent their years laboring in Your Kingdom for all veterans and their families. We are reminded that while some have answered the roll call and enjoyed the fruits of their labors, we will never forget the joy and the strength they gave us while here.

As we meet together in this convention for a few days of constructive work, we pray that Your Holy Spirit of truth and righteousness may prevail. Be with our national commander in this hour on this occasion, as Thou has been with him during the past year. We who know him know that he came many times to the fountain of Thy divine knowledge and love, else his decisions could not have been with such righteous decisions.

And may now the peace of Your Presence and the spirit of comradeship prevail among us as we dwell and work together. In Thy Great and Holy Name we pray. Amen.

Commander CARDOSI. You may now be seated.

In order for a delegate to be heard at this convention, he must be recognized by the Chair. Only those delegates at a microphone will be recognized. The delegate must state his name, chapter number and the state he represents.

I now call on the Credentials Committee for its first report.

Mr. **Bob Burton**. Bob Burton, the Credentials Committee chairman. Comrade Commander and the delegates, the National Convention Committee on Credentials was called to order for its first business session on July 30th, 1990 by the advisors. The first order of business was the election of a Credentials Committee chairman. Bob Burton was nominated for chairman. There being no further nominations, Bob Burton was elected chairman.

The next order of business was the nomination and the election of the secretary. Virgil Barnett was nominated and elected as the secretary.

Roll call showed 1563 delegates and 37 alternates present. This is a partial report for informational purposes only and reflects the registration at the close of registration at 4:00 p.m. on July 29, 1990. At the present time, we have 584 chapters, 37 departments, 27 national officers, 9 past national commanders, for a total of 1563 delegates and alternates, for a total of 9,919 votes.

The Credentials Committee will readjourn tomorrow morning at 8:00 o'clock. This completes the partial report of the Credentials Committee, Commander.

Commander **Cardosi**. Thank you very much.

The first order of business of this convention is to adopt the Rules. Printed copies of the Rules have been furnished to each registered delegate. The Chair will now entertain a motion for the adoption of Rules.

Mr. **Stagner**. Mike 1, Stagner, St. Louis Chapter Number 1, makes a motion that they be adopted.

Commander **Cardosi**. Thank you. Do I hear a second?

Mr. **Rusnak**. Mike Number 2. Mr. Chairman, I second the motion. Chapter 41, New Jersey, Department Commander George Rusnak.

Commander **Cardosi**. Thank you.

It's been moved and seconded. Is there any discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor, signify by saying Aye; any opposed. So ordered. Thank you very much.

The National Executive Committee at its most recent meeting approved the following resolution on the DAV Policy and recommends its adoption at this convention, and I will read it:

> The Disabled American Veterans was founded on the principle that this nation's first duty to veterans is the rehabilitation of its wartime disabled. This principle envisions:
>
> High-quality hospital and medical care administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs for veterans with disabilities incurred or aggravated by service in America's Armed Forces; adequate compensation for the loss resulting from such service connected disabilities; vocational rehabilitation and/or education to help the disabled veteran prepare for and obtain gainful employment; enhanced opportunities for employment and preferential job placement so that the remaining ability of the disabled veteran is used productively; adequate compensation to the widows and survivors of veterans whose deaths are held to be service connected under laws administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs.
>
> It therefore follows that we will not take action on any resolution that proposes legislation designed to provide benefits for other than wartime, service-connected

disabilities. We shall not oppose legislation beneficial to those veterans not classified as service-connected disabled, except when it is evident that such legislation will jeopardize benefits for service-connected disabled veterans.

While our first duty as an organization is to assist the service-connected disabled, his widow and survivors, we will, within the limits of our resources, assist others in filing, perfecting and prosecuting their claims for benefits.

Since this represents the principle upon which our organization was founded, and since it is as sound at this time as it was in 1920, we hereby reaffirm this principle as the policy for the Disabled American Veterans.

The Chair will now entertain a motion for the adoption of this Statement of Policy.

Mr. STOCKELL. Mike 2. Stockell, Chapter Number 5, Connecticut, moves the adoption.

Commander CARDOSI. It's been moved. Is there a second?

Past National Commander GALIAN. Past National Commander Galian seconds the motion.

Commander CARDOSI. Thank you, Past National Commander Galian.

It's been moved and seconded. Is there any discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor, signify by saying Aye; any opposed. The Ayes have it; so ordered. Thank you very much.

Our first speaker this morning has a distinguished career of public service to our country. It began when he served as a private in the U. S. Army in the Pacific in 1945. It continued from 1959 to 1983 in Washington, D. C., where he served as a congressman from Illinois' 4th District. While on Capitol Hill, he was senior minority member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee and the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee.

He has also served as a delegate to the United Nations General Assembly, and a counselor and under secretary at the State Department.

Last year he was appointed by President Bush to become the first Secretary of the newly created cabinet-level Department of Veterans Affairs.

And if you recall last year when I introduced this gentleman, I was up here at the platform alone. Today we're going to do it right. Ladies and gentlemen, please welcome the Honorable Edward J. Derwinski, Secretary of Veterans Affairs. [Rising applause.]

Honorable EDWARD J. DERWINSKI. I was in the back of the room listening to the introduction, but a little difficult to understand your commander, you know. These guys from Massachusetts speak so funny. [Laughter.] They don't speak like the rest of us Americans, but they're nice guys.

Commander, could I sort of break from the schedule a minute to ask if Mr. and Mrs. Tibbetts would join me here? Now, last November as part of a sort of recognition program for emphasizing what's good in the United States, the President called for what he calls a daily point of light program, and the purpose of this is to identify people who have done remarkable things, personal things to help their fellow Americans. And one such couple are William and Ethel Tibbetts who have been rewarded by the President, so to speak, or recognized for their work in the DAV transportation network. Therefore, in recognizing them, we recognize all of you who play a role in that wonderful program.

And I have here a letter from the President which I am going to present to Mr. and Mrs. Tibbetts, and I'd like to read the pertinent paragraphs.

> Dear Mr. and Mrs. Tibbetts:
>
> I was delighted to learn of your outstanding efforts in behalf of your community. Your generosity and willingness to serve others merit the highest recognition and praise.
>
> Since taking office, I have urged all Americans to make community service central to their lives and work. Judging by your active engagement in helping others, it is clear that you appreciate this obligation.
>
> Barbara joins me in congratulating you and sending you our warm best wishes for the future. You are bright points of light for your fellow Americans. You have our heartfelt thanks.

Signed, "George Bush." [Applause.]

Mr. **William J. Tibbetts**. Good afternoon everyone. It's a pleasure for me to be up here, and especially to receive this award. My wife and I, there's no words can express our feelings.

I would like to say one thing. I love the DAV, and I loved helping the veterans. Please excuse the way I am right now. Maybe it's God's way of telling me how other veterans in wheelchairs have gone through and how they have felt. But with God's help, I won't be in that wheelchair long. It's just I've got swollen legs and other injuries, but I'm going to still keep on driving.

There's a lot I'd like to say. I'm proud of the people I work with at the hospital, and with our supervisor, Ray, Pat Hashburn and Charlie Gray, who is the—he doesn't know when to say No in helping veterans, and God bless him for everything he has done to help all the veterans.

And another thing, we've got to work together as veterans and help one another, and I couldn't have done all this without my wife's help, and she's been with me going door to door and helping the veterans get into the cars, and helping blind that couldn't see. I'm telling you, without her, I couldn't have done it. This is my wife, Ethel. [Applause.]

Mrs. **William J. Tibbetts**. Well, I want to thank you all. First of all, I'd like to say congratulations to both of us. And also I want to say, on behalf of myself and my husband, we would like to say thank you, Mr. Derwinski, for coming from Washington to honor us with this beautiful award. Thank you. [Applause.]

Mr. **Tibbetts**. And being in District 9, I'm proud of every one of them and all our chapters, and especially Chapter 44, which I have been commander of, and also 9th District commander. Thank you and God bless you all. [Applause.]

Commander **Cardosi**. Congratulations, Mr. Tibbetts on that prestigious award. And by the way, Secretary, I'd like to just make one comment. Mr. Tibbetts originally hails from Massachusetts. [Laughter and applause.]

Hon. **Derwinski**. Well, you fellows have a way of picking interesting national commanders, and Vernon's been a good man to work with all year, and you're honored, Mr. Commander.

I want to tell the old story about—it's a true story—at the start of World War I when the U. S. finally went into that war and the first American troops started to land in France. And whenever a troopship would land with the U. S. soldiers under General Pershing, they'd march off the ship, and there'd be a British or French ceremonial unit there to greet them.

This one particular case, these Americans marched off, and there was a British ceremonial unit in their full dress, their traditional regalia and whatnot, and that particular unit had a mascot, and the mascot was a goat. So as the American troops marched by and were received by the Brits, they noticed this goat.

And so the officer in charge of the American unit shook hands with his Britisher counterpart and the Britisher said very proudly, he said, "Sir, we're pleased to have you and," he said, "we want you know that we're one of His Majesty's oldest rifle units, and we have a great tradition, and one of our great traditions is this goat."

So the American said, "Well, what's the history behind the goat?"

He said, "Well, our unit was in the Battle of Bunker Hill, and while they were moving across the open land, they found this stray goat which they adopted, and we've had the goat as a mascot ever since."

The American said, "That's wonderful. You keep your goat; we've still got Bunker Hill." [Laughter.]

Now, this is going to be a different kind of speech. Where is Butch? Is Butch up here somewhere? Okay. I hope you don't blush easy, Butch. This is going to be a different kind of a speech because usually at conventions you come in with a formal piece of paper all prepared, and the you go through the whole list of what we're allegedly doing at the VA and statistics and whatnot, and I'm going to be a little different this time.

And I'd like to remind you, if you had—I think it was in March—if you had read the March monthly DAV magazine which had the big headline about the people running the VA and how badly they were doing it, you would have said to yourself right at that point, if you were about to prepare to come to this convention, you would have probably made a bet saying, "Well, I won't see the Secretary or the Deputy Secretary at the VA convention. Look at this magazine."

Well, I thought I'd use that subject for my remarks this morning, because what happens is that we have honest differences of opinion once in a while. And really, that's the best way to get things done, and that's the American way to get things done. That's the point I want to make this morning.

Since I've been in the Secretary's position, we have had three major differences of opinion with Butch and Jesse and the commanders. In each case, after the air clears, we sit down and go over the problem and start to work at it. We shake hands and then go about the business.

And when it first happened, I thought, "My gosh! This really isn't, you know—this confrontation doesn't work." But the more I thought about it, I decided it's probably the best way to go about things, because you have a specific purpose for being organized as the DAV.

And then, of course, we have our legal official and tradition of responsibilities at the VA, and occasionally they're not going to be in step, or, if I could put it in different terms, there's no way you could bat a thousand in your relations with anyone. And I think if we look at it that way and we understand that we're bound to have honest differences of opinion, but in the end we have the same goal—the same goal is to do a better job for the veterans of our country—down the road we wind up working together and getting some problems solved.

We can't get all the problems solved again, because, you know, that's human nature. You're not going to be able to do that.

Now, right at the moment, one of the biggest problems that we have is our budget, and the funny thing about it is it has very little do with us, "us" meaning the VA. I've been in Washington for 32 years, Congress, State Department, now the VA, and I have not seen in my 32 years in Washington a situation as complicated and as difficult as the budget problem they're struggling with in Washington.

Now, we are the innocent victims. We, the VA budget, and therefore the veterans, are the innocent victims of all sorts of budget forces over which we have no control. We're going to come out of it tolerably well if they ever have a budget agreement, and I was chatting about that last night with Jesse, and when you finish your convention this week, Congress will still be in session, and they're going to have to go back to work trying to push some things through to see that the veterans' end of it holds up.

But again, from the practical Washington standpoint, I have not seen anything that difficult and frustrating as the current budget situation.

We were looking forward to a budget increase; we're going to get one. We are going to have more money this year than we had last year, and that's always the case. But the big problem is, do we get enough to cover the rising costs of medicine? That's the $64 question for us. And we're going to do whatever we can to maximize the budget dollars that we could get and we could keep.

The other thing I'd like to discuss very briefly—and in the process I'd like to pay a special compliment to one of your past national commanders, Oliver Meadows. Oliver Meadows comes very close to being an indispensable man to the VA. He chairs a special commission we have to study the future of the VA. He chairs an advisory committee that deals with the general subject of Agent Orange. And in each case, his statesmanship, his wisdom, his experience, his common sense is invaluable.

And I'd like to tell you a little bit about the commission on the future of the VA that Oliver's heading, and what we think it will do for you and for all of us who are interested in the future of the veterans' world.

We can't just sit still. You know, when I'm out visiting our hospitals, I run into a few of you out there. I show up unannounced as a general rule. And one of the things I do is then I sit down privately with the VSOs, the representatives, and ask for an honest report as to what the situation is in that particular hospital. And that way I get a direct input from the veterans who are on the job every day looking after their buddies.

And there's a lot of practical information that I pick up that way. One of the obvious things is that we have to make practical changes in our hospital system, especially to look after the aging veteran, the World War II veteran. That is going to be our major challenge in the next 10, 20, 30 years.

And our thought is, if we could do a good job putting into place a readjusted VA to serve the currently aging World War II veteran, then that system's in place to serve the Korean War veteran who comes along just ten years later on the average. The average age of the Korean War veteran is ten years younger than the World War II veteran. And the average age of the Vietnam Era veteran is only 15 years younger on the average than the Korean War veteran.

So if we could put a good system into place to effectively serve the aging veteran, we're going to do that for all veterans. And Oliver Meadows is heading a commission that's going to tell us where the VA should be, how it should be structured 10, 20, 30 years from now to take into account that practical fact of life.

We're hoping, of course, that there won't be any new wars to add millions of veterans to our rolls. We're hoping that this new era of possible peace and international understanding will hold up and it will, in fact, mean that we could concentrate more on directly helping our people rather than worrying about world affairs.

But we also know from history—and I add this as a strong personal view—we also know from history that it's a mistake to unilaterally and prematurely disarm. I'm just old enough to remember at the start of World War II—I was about 15 years old then when World War II broke out, and I was drafted later in the war.

But I remember a picture of the first draftees in the spring of '41—I'll never forget this; it's sort of etched in my mind—of the first draftees who were down in Fort Polk, Louisiana. The Chicago Tribune carried a picture of the new draftees drilling, carrying brooms because the Army didn't have enough rifles to issue them for training purposes.

Now, that's what we had done to our national defense, and it's very impractical to do that again. We still have problems. We have a gentleman by the name of Castro camped in Cuba as belligerent as ever. The Middle East could blow up at any time. We have dictatorships in North Korea, Vietnam. The world isn't that safe yet.

And as a result, we have to be practical as veterans seeing to it that while we want economies, we expect a cut in the military manpower, we expect a cutback in some of the funding for expensive gadgetry, the fact is though we want an efficient, effective, strong U. S. military, because that's what's helped keep the peace, and that's what has helped move the world towards democracy. And as veterans we, more than anyone else, should be appreciative of the young men and women currently serving our Armed Forces.

Now, on that point also, we have been working well with the DAV in looking at what we could do to help the men and women who've been prematurely discharged adjust to civilian life. And we're sitting down with the Pentagon and the Labor Department to see if we could work out a unified program for job counseling, job training, job placement programs for the people who come out of the military earlier than they expected.

We don't think there'll be an immediate impact on our medical system, because most of these youngsters who'll be released, of course, will be physically fit. Down the road, of course, that changes, but at the moment the big challenge will be to see that we can help them make a readjustment to civilian life.

Many of them will be covered by the current equivalent of the old GI Education Bill, now called the Montgomery Bill, and that will be helpful. And the other services of the VA will be available.

But we have to develop a better program of coordination with DOD and Labor so we can concentrate on their readjustment to employability and society.

So in all those areas, we're working well. We're working well with the DAV leadership. We're looking forward to a continued good practical relationship, and despite the occasional little public debate we've had, I can honestly tell you that our relations with the DAV are as good if not better than they are with any of the veteran organizations.

We appreciate your volunteer effort. We especially appreciate your program of providing vans that are so invaluable to many of our medical centers. We appreciate the wonderful volunteer spirit that was demonstrated by Mr. and Mrs. Tibbetts, and we appreciate the good will and efforts that you show in seeing that we do things a little better.

I have learned one thing in the year and a half that we're not going to ever going to be perfect because we're a bureaucracy, and no bureaucracy ever runs perfectly. But we're going to try to get the best possible service out of a well-intended, traditional, sometimes cumbersome VA bureaucracy.

Sometimes when I'm having a bad day—and I realize your chaplain's down here; I have to be careful—but sometimes when I'm having a bad day, I say that God must have been in a bad mood the day He created bureaucracy, because He didn't do a very good job of it.

And that's our big struggle, to try to take our 250,000 employees spread as they are around the country, and to remind them of the one central fact of life, that the VA doesn't exist so that they're employed; the VA exists so they could serve the veteran. That's the only reason for the existence of the VA is to serve the veterans. [Applause.]

Now, I would like to close by one other personal observation. You know, I travel around the country and I do state conventions and try to do all the national conventions, and I'm always out at some place selling the VA or shaking it up, whatever the immediate responsibility is, and I meet an awful lot of people, and most of them are nice.

But once in a while you meet some truly outstanding people. You sort of walk into a room and there is somebody there, and you spot them and you say to yourself, "Now, there's really a great man." And I had that feeling yesterday when I walked into a meeting and I noticed this very distinguished, outstanding looking, obviously dominating individual. So I whispered to the commander. I said, "Commander, who is that gentleman?"

And the commander said, "Well, he's our national chaplain."

And I said, "Well, gee, that's remarkable. Very impressive gentleman."

And he said, "Oh, yes. You know, he's not only our national chaplain, but he's one of the greatest Methodist preachers in Oklahoma." And then he added, "Not only that, he's really considered one of the greatest Methodist preachers in all of the United States."

And I was very impressed, and of course, it fortified my original conclusion, just by spotting the chaplain, that he was an outstanding man.

So in honor of your chaplain, I want to tell you a story. Years ago when I was in Congress, I had a little area of my district was rural, had good farm country out there. This is south of Chicago, south of the suburbs. And this one particular farmer had a very, very successful dairy farm. In his case, however, he was a Quaker, and, you know, Quakers don't use machinery. He did everything old-fashioned; he did everything by hand.

He milked his cows by hand. He had an unusually productive herd of cows, except he had one cow who was a trouble-maker, and every so often, as he had that bucket of milk under the cow and he was busy milking away, the cow would kick the bucket of milk. And the Quaker would patiently reach over, pick up the bucket, put it back under the cow and continue milking.

A day or two later, the cow would kick the bucket again. The Quaker one day lost his temper, and he stood up, and he walked around, looked that cow right in the eye, and he said, "Cow, thou knowest I am a Quaker. Thou knowest I will not curse thee. Thou knowest I will not strike thee or abuse thee or punish thee in any way. But what thou dost not knowest is thou kickest over that bucket of milk one more time, I will sell thee to a Methodist preacher." [Laughter and applause.]

Commander CARDOSI. Thank you, Mr. Secretary. The Secretary has another very important engagement, and he does have to leave. I want to thank the Secretary for attending our convention. He's doing an outstanding job. Mr. Secretary, again thanks for coming. Let's give the Secretary a great hand. [Applause.]

I would like now to introduce Ron Drach for the purpose of a presentation. Mr. Ron Drach.

Mr. RONALD W. DRACH. Thank you, Commander. Commander Cardosi, national officers, delegates and guests: It is my privilege to be before you this morning to tell you about a new award that's been developed and to help present that award.

Following last year's national convention, National Adjutant Joeckel asked me to look at developing a new award. This award was to be unique and different from any other award the DAV has ever had or had ever presented, and it was designed in large part to recognize organizations, people outside of the DAV, but not necessarily at the exclusion of somebody inside the DAV.

The award was to be designed to recognize someone who extended a helping hand to America's disabled veterans. Eligible for nomination for this award are individuals, organizations, foundations, or other benevolent activities which directly assist the DAV in obtaining our goals.

Following the development of the award, we didn't think it was quite enough just to call it the Helping Hand Award. We thought it needed something a little bit more prestigious, so National Commander Cardosi went to Chairman/Congressman Sonny Montgomery, chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, and asked if we could name the award in Congressman Montgomery's honor.

Mr. Montgomery said we could so do, and that he would attempt to be here this year to present the first award. It is the very first award. Regrettably, Mr. Montgomery could not be here with us today, but he did send this message, if you'd watch the screen, please.

[Video message was shown.]

Congressman **Sonny Montgomery**. Thank you, National Commander Cardosi. I want to say hello to the delegates of the 69th Annual DAV Convention. Mr. Commander, I've seen you all around the country working for our veterans to see that they are treated fairly. I congratulate you on moving around.

I also appreciate the Washington staff. They do a good job, and I enjoy very much working with them on veterans issues.

I had planned to be in Anaheim, but the House is in session this week, and there will be negotiations and votes on some of our veterans programs.

I'm honored that the DAV chose to place my name on your Helping Hand Award, and even more than that, I appreciate the purpose of this award. There are many unsung heroes in our midst. I am pleased that they are being given this recognition.

This year, Judge Harry Pregerson is the honoree. I have read his resume, and it is very impressive. He has distinguished himself as a combat Marine, as a federal judge, and through his work in the community, especially his efforts on behalf of the homeless in California.

I wish I could be there to present the Helping Hand Award to you in person, Judge Pregerson. You truly deserve this honor.

I'm sorry I can't be there, but I hope you have a successful convention. Thank you.

[Applause.]

Mr. **Drach**. Commander Cardosi, the recipient of this award is a federal judge in Los Angeles. He is being honored for his humanitarian effort to help America's homeless veterans.

Our recipient helped establish a shelter for the homeless at the former Cheli Army/Air Force air base in Ball, California. The shelter opened after permission was obtained to place the shelter on Federal Government property. This came about only after extensive negotiations with the General Services Administration, GSA.

It is only one of two such shelters established under the McKinney Act for the homeless.

Thanks to this individual's persistence, thousands of homeless people in the Los Angeles area have been provided shelter. Approximately one-third of these facilities are used by veterans.

Additionally, he helped start the Westwood Transitional Project in Westwood, California, which helps veterans and their families find temporary housing. There are 14 two-bedroom, two-bath, fully equipped and furnished mobile homes on the property. This project also provides medical, social and counseling services. Job training services are available to help veterans and their families get back on their feet.

Our honoree is himself a severely wounded World War II Marine Corps veteran, and a life member of the DAV in Woodland Hills, California. Following his military service, he graduated from Bode Hall Law School, and in 1965 was appointed to his first seat on the bench on the Los Angeles Municipal Court.

In 1966, former Governor Pat Brown appointed him to the Los Angeles Superior Court. In 1967, President Lyndon Johnson appointed him to the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California, and in 1979, President Jimmy Carter appointed him to his present position as a judge with the U. S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Perhaps the best summation of his attitude was expressed in a recent newspaper article when he said, "I grew up with the idea of helping other people and fighting for humanitarian causes."

He is accompanied here today by his wife, Bernadine.

Chairman Cardosi, National Adjutant Joeckel, delegates and guests, I now present to you the recipient of the very first G. V. Sonny Montgomery Helping Hand Award, Judge Harry Pregerson. [Rising applause.]

I would like to read the inscription on the award. On the top part—it's hard to see back there—it's a plexiglass, and it says, "The Disabled American Veterans' G. F. Sonny Montgomery Helping Hand Award," and etched in there is a likeness of the chairman. The bottom part reads, "Proudly presented to Judge Harry Pregerson, July 30th, 1990, for distinguished and unselfish service to disabled veterans consistent with the highest standards of the Disabled American Veterans." Signed, "Vernon V. Cardosi, National Commander; Charles E. Joeckel, Jr., National Adjutant."

Commander CARDOSI. Your Honor, I'm proud to present this first award, recipient of the Montgomery Award, to you. Congratulations and thank you for all the help you've been to our veterans. [Applause.]

Judge HARRY PREGERSON. I am going to give this to my wife. She stood by me all these years. We've been married 43 years. [Applause.]

And when I came home from the war, I had trouble walking, but that didn't bother her. She took care of me, and we stand here together this morning. [Applause.] She's the helping hand in our family.

Ron, thank you for that wonderful introduction, and Commander Cardosi, I appreciate the presentation of the award, and I certainly want to thank National Adjutant Joeckel for all of his help and assistance. And I thank all of you here today, all of the members of the DAV, for honoring me as the recipient of the National Commander's G.V. Sonny Montgomery Helping Hand Award.

I had the pleasure of speaking with Congressman Montgomery just a few days ago, and he's a very warm person. We discovered we had some very good mutual friends. And I'm very, very proud to be the first recipient of the award named in his honor. And it's appropriate that this award be named for Congressman Montgomery, chairman of the Veterans Affairs Committee, because of his outstanding work on behalf of disabled American veterans and veterans and their families throughout the country.

I have to tell you that this is one of the proudest moments of my life. I wish my father, Abraham Pregerson, could be here to share this with me. My dad fought with the U. S. Army in World War I, and he was badly wounded in France in the Argonne Forest. He was gassed, had shrapnel wounds to his neck and his back.

My father was a lifetime member of the DAV. I grew up in a DAV household, and hanging, hanging from the wall of our home was this citation presented by President Woodrow Wilson to all wounded soldiers, sailors and Marines who sacrificed for their country in World War I. And this depicts—I know it's difficult to see—this depicts Columbia saluting her wounded son, and the citation reads: "Served with honor in World War and was wounded in action."

Now, this depiction here of Columbia knighting her wounded sons is the emblem of the DAV that graces this platform here today, and that's why I'm so proud to be here and so proud to be a member of the DAV, and I have been a member for over 40 years. [Applause.]

Now, I have devoted most of my professional life to public service and helping people get what they're entitled to under the law, and that's exactly what you're doing. You're helping disabled veterans and their families get what they are entitled to under the law, and that's another reason why I'm proud to be a member of the DAV.

In the spirit of helping others, I want to tell you that nothing I've ever done in my life has given me more satisfaction than that which I've derived working with GSA and the Salvation Army to establish two homeless shelters on federal property in Los Angeles. Ron has told you about those shelters. We're taking care, at the old Cheli air base, of over 150 homeless men and women every evening, and a third of them are veterans.

We have adjacent to the VA property a GSA property in Westwood, 14 mobile homes. We're taking care of homeless families, helping them to get back on their feet. We have many veterans' families there; veterans' families get a preference.

I couldn't have done this had I not had the help of the DAV, particularly the DAV national organization and the DAV Rehabilitation Foundation and DAV Charities of Southern California. They've made generous contributions that have helped keep these shelters going and provide much needed support and social services for homeless veterans.

Now, these are just two projects, and there are many more that flourish because of the helping hand of the DAV.

You know, in his second inaugural address, Abraham Lincoln asked the nation to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan.

I'm grateful that the DAV is dedicated to help veterans who bear the honorable scars of battle. I'm grateful that the DAV is playing an important nationwide role in helping homeless veterans and their families.

And I'd like to thank our National Adjutant Joeckel, for his outstanding leadership in the veterans' movement. And Chuck, I can't tell you how much I appreciate the strong support and commitment that you've displayed to our programs. They kept us going.

And I want to thank my good friend, Bob Jordan, truly an outstanding gentleman, who was the supervisor of the national service officers of the DAV in West Los Angeles. Bob has just been terrific. He's always there when I need him, and he pushes me along.

Jack Kramer, chairman of the board of DAV Charities of Greater Los Angeles, and Michael Tempesta, chairman of DAV Rehabilitation Foundation, I want to thank them for their guidance and support.

And then I want to thank and salute all of the men and women of the DAV who day in and day out devote their lives to helping disabled veterans who, during times of war, have served our nation and the cause of freedom of democracy throughout the world.

I thank you for honoring me with this award. [Applause.]

Commander **Cardosi**. Thank you so very much, our first recipient, and I can understand why he was the first recipient. Thank you for your comments, your remarks. We are greatly appreciative, and again, congratulations.

Dedication and experience are the two characteristics, among others, that our next speaker has brought to the DAV. A former combat-disabled Marine, he joined the DAV professional staff in 1967 as an NSO trainee in Chicago. He moved to Washington in 1973 to supervise the DAV's National Service Office.

After serving as the executive assistant to the national adjutant, he was appointed executive director of the DAV's Washington, D. C. Headquarters, where he supervises the DAV's National Service, Legislative, Employment and Voluntary Service Programs. He has given the DAV more than 20 years of dedicated experience.

Please join me in welcoming Jesse Brown to the convention. [Applause.]

[The prepared statement of Jesse Brown follows:]

ANNUAL REPORT JESSE BROWN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WASHINGTON OFFICE

Thank you National Commander Cardosi for that kind introduction.

Delegates to the 69th National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen.

Today I would like to take just a few minutes of your time to highlight the year the DAV has just completed and examine some of the challenges that face us as we enter the decade of the 90's.

During the past year, we have had to reemphasize the fact that military service is not an easy or an ordinary thing.

That seems like such a simple concept to all of us here. We know it's not child's play to face enemy fire . . . to see a comrade die in the arms of a medic . . . to wonder of the next mortar shell will land in your foxhole . . . to see another human being fall after we have pulled the trigger.

And yet there are those who would discredit the price of freedom by demeaning our sacrifices, all in the name of balancing the budget.

Over the years, we have seen proposals from OMB, CBO, the Grace Commission, and GAO, designed to cut back on compensation benefits. They feel the VA system is open territory and no department in the VA is sacred. That kind of thinking disturbs us. We believe that compensation benefits are sacred because they reflect the sacrifices that men and women made in defense of this country.

Well, let me tell you what I think is Sacred. When a young son or daughter enters the military, those young people are—and always will be—sacred to their mothers and fathers.

Those were sacred lives lost on the battlefields of World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam.

When a nation makes a promise to its defenders, it is a sacred promise, one that is woven into the fabric of citizenship. And the National Organization cannot and will not allow them to dishonor this sacred trust by agreeing to short-sighted changes to the compensation program.

Against this backdrop of clear-cut—and sacred—obligations we each hold with each other—and with our nation—comes a recent General Accounting Office report.

We are particularly disturbed with this report which recommends a revision in the criteria for service-connection.

Using questionable research methods, the GAO wants to establish a causal relationship between the performance of duty and disability or injury.

What does all of this mean?

Well it means that if an 18-year old soldier stationed in Germany is involved in an automobile accident—while he is off-duty—and that accident results in paralysis from the neck down, he would not be entitled to disability compensation from the VA.

The GAO says the VA should deny that young man's claim because his injuries were not related to the performance of his military service. And, therefore, this quadriplegic becomes the responsibility of his mother and father.

This is wrong! The government cannot be released from its obligation to care for that 18-year-old.

The fact is—he wouldn't have been in Germany, on that road, in that car, if he were not fulfilling his obligation to our country.

I get emotional about this subject and thought, perhaps I had lost my objectivity—so I called my mother (you have to do that sometimes, because they will lie to you in Washington) and asked her what did she think. She said, "That's terrible." I asked our National Adjutant and he said, "It's an outrage and the DAV would not stand for it."

Now I ask you:

Do you agree with my mother and our National Adjutant that a sacred trust has been broken and it is an outrage that the DAV will not stand for?!!

I think we have a consensus here. Because of mismanagement at HUD, billions of dollars have gone down the drain.

Because of mismanagement, greed and downright fraud, billions will go toward bailing out the savings and loan industry.

There's a billion dollar telescope in space right now that you can't see . . . and we're faced with the prospect of a paralyzed young soldier, who's left with nothing because his country found its responsibility to him too expensive. This is wrong!!

The GAO is quick to point out that any reductions would affect only future generations of veterans. But why are future veterans less deserving than today's veterans? Why is your son less deserving than you? Why is my son less deserving than me?

No—this selfish appeal will not work. Some of us may have been wounded in the head, but it doesn't mean that we are brain-dead. We know the difference between right and wrong—and this proposal is wrong.

The fact is, none of us here, none of us in the DAV and, I think, none of America's citizens are about to dishonor our service men and women—past, present and future.

We hold sacred America's debt to the men and women who fought our wars and preserved our freedom. Justice demands that America remembers that debt and recognized it can never be fully repaid.

The DAV is not an organization of words. But we are an action organization. And because we get results, we have been accused of being reactionaries and unreasonable in many instances. However, we are not swayed, nor are we intimidated by those statements.

We'll do whatever is necessary when the best interests of veterans and their families are threatened.

When the VA's budget is inadequate, we'll take whatever action is necessary.

When elderly veterans are unable to get medical care they need and deserve, we will act.

When VA facilities . . . because of inadequate budgets . . . experience a wholesome closing of beds, system-wide restriction of nursing home care, elimination of outpatient care—and when the quality of health care is questionable—we will act.

The fact is disabled veterans—you, me and all those both inside and outside the DAV—are at risk. Someone is always looking at the VA, trying to figure out a way to get more money away from the VA's budget and into their own pockets.

You know the space telescope I mentioned earlier got the OK for its money out of some Congressional Appropriations Committees that OK'd the VA's funds. That's what we're up against.

I want to make sure everyone clearly understands the magnitude of the challenges that face VA health care. The lengths to which some would go in order to discredit our service and sacrifice.

At the same time, I want to pay proper credit to our own tremendous arsenal of champions, the most important of whom are our members.

During the past year we've asked you to write your Congressional delegations, the President, and Secretary Derwinski.

You responded by writing thousands of letters and making thousands of telephone calls. You sent a message—loud and clear—to Congress and the White House.

We know what's right for veterans because we get our direction from you—the members of the DAV. The GAO proposal and an inadequate budget for the VA are wrong. We in the DAV are not going to make it easy for them, and we will do whatever necessary to make it right—and they'd better get used to that fact right now.

Earlier today we heard from Secretary Derwinski. I can't ignore the fact that we in the DAV have had our differences with the Secretary. ANd sometimes those differences have been major.

But I've also worked closely with the Secretary and found him to be a man who is both an extremely capable individual and a superb politician.

I believe that he, too, understands the sacred obligation the nation has to disabled vets. He has demonstrated a willingness to use his cabinet-level position and experience as a congressman to advocate on veterans' behalf.

Last year he pressed for and won a $345 million supplemental appropriation. He expanded service-connected benefits for Vietnam veterans suffering form non-hodgkins lymphomas and soft tissue sarcomas.

He negotiated a $1 billion increase for fiscal year 1991 over the 1990 spending level and he established a commission to study the future structure of the VA's health care system.

These accomplishments are significant to us and deserve our gratitude.

During the past year, the DAV's record of service, as well, has been unmatched. We employ the best National Service Officers in the United States. During the past year, National Service Officers successfully represented over 210,000 veterans and obtained over $1 billion in retroactive payments and increased monthly benefits.

This is indeed a product of the dedication of our National Service Officers who, under the leadership of Authur Wilson, our National Service Director, and his staff, continue to maintain a level of excellence that is unequalled and unsurpassed by anyone.

Likewise, you can be extremely proud of your National Legislative staff, under the direction of Rick Heilman. Our legislative staff continues to be known as the most effective advocate in Washington, D.C. DAV legislative service efforts have resulted in millions of dollars in benefits to disabled veterans and their families. More importantly, those efforts have resulted in laws that opened doors for disabled veterans and their families and the opportunity to lead productive, and full lives.

Also, Ron Drach, our National Employment Director, and his assistant, are extremely capable and working very hard to make sure that the laws on the books are enforced and, where necessary, new laws are enacted so veterans can get a decent break in the job market.

Our voluntary service program, under Bruce Nitsche's direction, continues to expand. For instance, as of March 30, 1990, the DAV, through services and donations, contributed more than $31 million to the VA health care system. In 1987, a crisis unexpectedly struck the lives of thousands of veterans when the VA stopped reimbursing them for the cost of transportation to VA medical facilities. DAV responded by putting 172 Hospital Service Coordinators in VA facilities, purchased 176 vans and drove more than 16 million miles to date providing transportation to almost 300,000 veterans.

If Secretary Derwinski were here, I think we would agree the DAV is doing what it does best. We're looking out for each other, our fellow disabled veteran and their families.

That means we're standing up to our adversaries, those bureaucrats who only see the bottom line and view disabled vets in the past tense.

We're standing up to those who do not hold sacred the 635,000 American lives lost on battlefields since World War I, or the 1.2 million Americans—right up to today—who have been wounded defending this nation's principles.

You know, the foundation of a nation is its people. The hope for a nation also lies solely in its people.

There can be no better foundation for America than the people right here in this room. There is no better hope for our future than the hope we place in each other.

With your continued support, and that of our dynamic leader, our National Adjutant Butch Joeckel, and, of course, our Program Directors and staff, we are going to continue to do what is right—and that is standing up for veterans and their families.

It is a challenge, but a challenge we can win. Together we can win because we will act, we have a million members, our cause is just and God is on our side.

Mr. JESSE BROWN. Thank you very much. [Applause.] Mr. Commander, this concludes my report.

Past National Commander THOMPSON. Comrade Commander, Mike 2. Paul L. Thompson, past national commander from Maryland. I move that we accept the very informative and stirring report of our executive director of the Washington Office.

Commander **Cardosi**. It's been moved. Do I hear a second?

Mr. **McCartin**. Mr. Chairman, Mike 2. Billy McCartin, Baltimore Chapter Number 1, Department of Maryland, seconds the motion.

Commander **Cardosi**. It's been moved and seconded. Is there any discussion? All those in favor, signify by saying Aye; opposed. Thank you, Jesse Brown, for those very, very dynamic, informative remarks and also Jesse, thank you very much for cleaning up that story a bit. Thank you, Jesse Brown. [Applause.]

ANNUAL REPORT ARTHUR H. WILSON, NATIONAL SERVICE DIRECTOR

National Commander Cardosi, Reverend clergy, National Officers, distinguished guests, delegates, members and good friends of the Disabled American Veterans:

As National Service Director, I am proud to present to you, the delegates to this 69th National Convention, the Annual Report of the National Service Department.

The events of the past year make it obvious that veterans and veterans' programs are under attack. You need only to look at the so-called "self-initiated" audit by the GAO entitled "VA Benefits—Law Allows Compensation for Disabilities Unrelated to Military Service." To many of us, myself included, this came as something of a shock because the very foundation of veterans' programs—compensation for disabilities incurred or aggravated during a period of military service—is the primary target of this attack. It is all the more shocking because the audit was to review the compensation program in order to assist the Congress by providing information and analysis concerning a profile of beneficiaries and the origin of their disabilities. However, after a detailed investigation, the DAV has concluded the audit to be misleading, politically motivated and incomplete which does irreparable harm to the federal audit process.

These events have produced a profound sense of betrayal in all of us. They have also caused a great deal of anger. Betrayal and anger are emotions which generate action and, as we all know, the DAV is an action organization and has responded accordingly.

Because of the attack's challenge to the basic principle of veterans' benefits, something else has happened: those principles which we believed were self-evident, have been re-examined and found to be just as valid now, as they ever were. This, in turn, has given us a sense of rededication and reinforces the need to constantly keep in mind what the DAV and its mission is all about. This has never been more important than now because of powerful forces working to dismantle the veterans' benefits system.

On a more positive note, we are encouraged by the fact that the VA recognizes that veterans must be part of the overall debate regarding the government's duty to veterans. We are also encouraged by the VA's decision to bring the DAV into the discussions on what is to be done with the compensation program. These discussions will not focus on the reduction of benefits, but rather, on the future needs of disabled veterans.

The DAV is entering its 70th year of providing the best possible service to veterans and their families available anywhere. DAV, of course, stands for Disabled American Veterans but, in re-examining what the DAV is all about, I had a sudden inspiration: the DAV acronym also represents Dedication, Advocacy and Vigilance. Dedication to those who have borne the battle and the Veterans' Benefits System that a grateful Congress has thoughtfully crafted to meet the Nation's obligation to those who have served; Advocacy for those the system was designed to serve; and Vigilance against those who would denigrate the sacrifices made for their country by members of the Armed Forces by eroding or dismantling veterans programs.

I am pleased to report that during the past year, the DAV's National Service Department activities have again been characterized by the highest level of Dedication, Advocacy and Vigilance. I think this is an appropriate occasion to reflect on the unique accomplishments of the DAV. The heart and soul of the DAV is the cadre of National Service Officers. The volume and breadth of their representation, on behalf of veterans, is simply astonishing. Think of it. During the past year, NSOs successfully represented over 214,000 veterans and obtained over $1 billion for them in retroactive payments or increased monthly benefits. This representation was before the VA, the Social Security Administration, the Department of Defense and other federal, state and local agencies.

Attorneys representing veterans before the VA now can be compensated up to 20% of retroactive benefits for their services. The Social Security Administration withholds 25% of a claimant's past due benefits for payment of the attorney's fees. These amounts are authorized by law and Congress considers them to be fair compensation for successful representation. Well, 20% of the $1.2 billion NSOs obtained for veterans and their families amounts to $240 million and 25% amounts to $300 million. Of course, this exceptional representation by NSOs was accomplished free of charge.

These are direct savings to veterans and their families. It doesn't end there, however. If NSOs weren't there to take the claims, answer questions about benefits, gather evidence, etc., the VA would be responsible for doing it. Think of all the other services and outreach programs the DAV provides through its NSOs: the Field Service Units; Emergency and Disaster Relief; the Hospital Service Coordinator Program; the Military Personnel Pre-Separation Briefing Program; Information Seminars; and the thousands of Chapter meetings when NSOs give the message about veterans' benefits and services.

These are the kinds of things the VA should be doing, but because of budget cuts, they haven't done for years. How much would it cost the VA to again provide the level of service mandated by their mission? I don't know, but certainly many millions of dollars and this does not include the enormous savings to the government generated by the DAV Voluntary Services Programs.

These are some of the facts that critics of the DAV should consider. Where would veterans and their families, the VA and taxpayers be without the services provided by the DAV? I think it is also appropriate to emphasize who is providing these enormously valuable services. Not high-priced lawyers or faceless government bureaucrats paid by the taxpayers, but wartime disabled veterans helping other veterans.

NSOs are not content to sit back and collect their compensation and other benefits. No, they conquered their disabilities and became highly dedicated and professional advocates, performing an essential, meaningful and valuable job. They are a testament to what veterans' benefits programs are designed to do. This, I think, explains why they are so dedicated to the veterans' benefits system and why they are so good at their jobs. What better advocate can there be than one who has been through it and seen the system work. And the system does work. For those who don't think so, just look at the work done by NSOs.

It is not surprising that NSOs are so vigilant in protecting the rights and benefits of veterans and their families. In a less cynical time when politicians were more forthright in saying and doing what they meant, attacks on veterans benefits and services were more direct. The political response was just as direct and it was effective as witnessed by the fine system of veterans' benefits and services we now have. No doubt this is why the attacks were masked in the deliberations of secret committees, the smoke and mirrors of spurious studies, mission commissions, and a hypocritical budget process which denies benefits and services to veterans in the name of fiscal austerity. Vigilance has never been more important. NSOs are there on the line to report the results the disastrous impact on veterans of the rapidly deteriorating level of service the VA is providing. This has been articulated in the Independent Budget and in the DAV's testimony before Congress. NSOs are the ever-vigilant eyes and ears of the DAV.

I could go on about the DAV and how it represents Dedication, Advocacy and Vigilance but you get the point. There is, however, another characteristic of the DAV which serves as an appropriate introduction to this annual report. The DAV has always been ahead of the curve in expanding and improving service to veterans.

For example, while the VA flounders in its service delivery mission and effective, comprehensive VA outreach programs are a fond but distant memory, the DAV will soon have in place an ambitious program focused on the needs of servicepersons being separated from active duty—a Pre-Separation Briefing Program with plans to expand to accommodate the increased number of separations resulting from the outbreak of peace. These programs do not happen overnight; they take planning—and training.

We ask a lot of our NSOs but we provide the training for them to be able to meet your high expectations. The DAV's Structured and Continuing Training Program has set the standard for innovative and comprehensive training for presentation of VA claims. A major addition is a training module on Social Security Disability claims presentation, which is nearing completion. We think it will be another jewel in the crown of DAV's ongoing training program. In advance of the training, we have sent several memoranda to all NSOs on Social Security Disability issues. In this area, we also prepared a comprehensive proposal for reform of the Social Security Adjudication and appeals process, which was submitted to the Disability Advisory Committee and we developed a legislative proposal to cure a long-standing inequity in the law by eliminating the waiting period for receipt of Disability Insurance Benefits. The DAV wants veterans and their families to receive all the benefits they are entitled to.

We are also providing management training by the periodic issuance of Supervisor's Bulletins to Supervisory NSOs. These Bulletins have a practical orientation and are designed to help supervisors be better managers by understanding their role and applying common sense principles, as well as sound business principles, to the task of providing the best possible service to veterans.

I believe the DAV is also well ahead of the curve in representing veterans before the Court of Veterans Appeals (COVA). COVA ushers in a new era in advocacy for veterans and we have a top-notch team to lead the way. By law, veterans are supposed to be given the benefit of the doubt in the adjudication of their claims. I can assure you that DAV advocacy before COVA will forcefully make the case that VA regulations, procedures and adjudication must be fully in accord with well-established Congressional intent.

I think we are on track; there have been no detours in the DAV's mission to serve veterans. We remain steadfast while some forget the debt the Nation owes its veterans. I believe the following accomplishments show that the DAV National Service Department has acted with Dedication, Advocacy and Vigilance during the past year.

The final report to this Convention will contain the 12-month figures for all National Service Office activities. However, some of the major accomplishments and highlights achieved between July 1, 1989, through May 31, 1990, are as follows:

During this period DAV National Service Officers conducted more than 214,000 interviews, processed over 189,000 new claims, appeared before VA adjudication boards over 211,000 times and obtained $1,083,426,084 in annual and retroactive monetary benefits.

NSOS AT VA INSURANCE CENTERS

Because of the efforts provided by DAV representatives, at the VA Insurance Center in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and St. Paul, Minnesota 473 veterans were granted waiver of premiums due to total disability and 183 had their waiver of premiums continued. National Service Officers at both of these locations reviewed 564 insurance files and appeared before the Department of Veterans Affairs on 272 occasions. The financial return to claimants DAV represented during this time frame totaled $362,941.

PHYSICAL EVALUATION BOARDS

The DAV provides representation to active duty personnel and retirees appearing before the Uniformed Services Physical Evaluation Boards. From June 1989 through May 1990, our efforts resulted in 328 decisions granting our continuing disability retirement benefits. This success was based upon the review of 851 military records, and 467 presentations of formal arguments before the Physical Evaluation Boards.

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY BENEFITS

During this reporting period National Service Officers also represented over 973 claimants before the Social Security Administration at the local level resulting in payments of over $7,613,634. The official record will show you cannot get better representation before the Social Security Administration than that provided by our NSOs. Our success did not end at the Administrative Law Judge level, but extended to the Appeals Council. We obtained reversal of decisions in 28% ot our cases, whereas the Council's overall reversal rate during the reporting year 1989–1990 was approximately 5%.

DAV NATIONAL APPEALS OFFICE

The demand for DAV representation continues to illustrate the public's respect for and confidence in our organization's ability to represent their best interest at the highest level of the appeals process within the Department of Veterans Affairs' appellate procedures. During fiscal year 1989, the DAV represented 15,263 cases or 39.5% of all cases considered by the Board of Veterans Appeals (BVA) of which 15.1% were favorable and 21.2% were remanded to the Department of Veterans Affairs' regional offices for further development. It is interesting to note our organization submitted 34 cases to the Board of Veterans Appeals for reconsideration which was 42.5% of all cases submitted for reconsideration.

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW PROGRAM

National Service Officers frequently refer extremely complex cases to National Service and Legislative Headquarters for presentation to VA Central Office. Of the 34 cases submitted this year, 26 or 76% were favorably resolved. This is the only area where cases are chosen by DAV NSOs for special review by VA. These are cases where the NSO believes there is a clear and unmistakable error or misapplication of law or regulations. These cases are discovered through in depth review of a veteran's claims folder and extensive familiarity, not only with present day regulations, but historical regulations and laws that may not be in effect today, but would have effected that case, if properly adjudicated initially. In our opinion, the statistics clearly point to not only the success of the program but, also the high level technical expertise and ability of our National Service Officers.

FIELD SERVICE UNIT PROGRAM

The DAV operates a nationwide Field Service Unit program, for veterans and their families who can't visit a DAV National Service Office. These office equipped vans have assisted more than 500,000 veterans and their families in their hometowns since the program's inception in 1974. During the 1989 calendar year, National Service Officers assisted 24,892 individuals. Over 7,900 claimants demonstrated their confidence in the Disabled American Veterans, by executing a new Power of Attorney appointing the DAV to act as their representative.

EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND

This program provides grants to disabled veterans and their families facing financial emergencies. Almost $11 million has been dispensed to 59,000 individuals since the program's inception in 1973. 1989 was no exception and found more than 3,900 of our comrades desperately in need of immediate financial assistance to stave off the hardship of personal crisis. $860,890 was expended from this fund to assist those comrades.

DISASTER RELIEF FUND

This program provides financial assistance to disabled veterans and their families recovering from the immediate effects of natural disasters. Since the beginning of the program in 1968, more than $2 million has been dispersed to 4,700 claimants. 1989 though proved to be a very disastrous year. The DAV Disaster Relief Fund immediately stepped in to augment the furies of these multiple and varied natural disasters. In 1989 alone, the DAV expended over $400,000 for the benefit of those affected by disasters in South Carolina, Puerto Rico and California, just to name a few.

DAV'S STRUCTURED AND CONTINUING TRAINING PROGRAM

In 1987, we introduced the DAV's Structured and Continuing Training Program for rehabilitated National Service Officers. This was an intensive training program completed over a two year period. The American Council on Education (ACE) evaluated this program and were so impressed they officially recommended the course for college credit. The fact that the majority of our National Service Officers have completed this initial phase of the training program, does not mean training is over. Remember the title of this program is DAV's Structured and Continuing Training Program. A new module for Social Security Disability Insurance Benefits is in the works and we hope that it will be released shortly for activation. The entire training program is being updated and we hope for release in the fall of this year when our National Service Officer corps will then enter into the second phase of training. We expect our National Service Officers to be the most professionally trained and current on all benefit changes affecting the claimants we represent.

COURT OF VETERANS APPEALS

The Veterans Judicial Review Act, Public Law 100-687, established under Article I of the Constitution, the United States Court of Veterans Appeals (COVA). This Court has exclusive jurisdiction to review decisions of the Department of Veterans Affairs' Board of Veterans Appeals.

In our continuing effort to provide quality service, we have expanded our program to include representation before this new Court. The DAV has certified and the Court has granted recognition for at least two accredited representatives to practice their profession before COVA. In addition, we also employ staff counsel who provide guidance and technical advice.

While the creation of this new Court was, at best, a very complicated matter, the DAV has once again stepped in to be sure veterans and their dependents receive only the best possible assistance found anywhere. These comments are supported by our activities at the Court. Since the opening of our newest office in September 1989, our staff has been involved in 632 filings and 59 dispositions. We anticipate our workload to continue to rise as COVA begins to issue its decisions.

INFORMATION SEMINARS

We are pleased to point out the tremendous success of this concept to DAV. Since the introduction of this program in 1988, 218 seminars have been conducted, attended by 14,214 veterans and their dependents. Many hundreds of new claims for various benefits have been filed as a direct result of these seminars and, of course, a continued interest in membership activity.

NSO MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT EFFORTS

In spite of the heavy workload in representing our claimants before the VA and other agencies, NSOs attended 1,077 Department meetings, 2,701 Chapter meetings and 2,991 other meetings related to their profession; they made time to actively build this organization through membership recruitment with 3,263 new annual members, and 9,695 new life members recruited by our NSOs.

* * * * *

I would like to express my appreciation to a special group of National Service Officers who have retired from active DAV employment this past year. They are Vicente Cui, Honolulu, HI and Harry Heard, Detroit, MI. They represent many years of National Service Officer experience and while their loss will be missed by the DAV, we also wish them well in retirement.

I would like to personally acknowledge and express my thanks to the National Finance Committee and the National Executive Committee for their continued support for our National Service Programs.

On behalf of all National Service Officers, we wish to thank the National Service Foundation for its generous contributions of more than $715,000 since 1986. Those donations to the Office Furniture and Equipment program have made it possible to purchase needed furniture and office equipment for National Service Offices across the country.

During the past year, we in the DAV were distinguished to have Vernon V. Cardosi as National Commander. Commander Cardosi has been extremely supportive of our National Service Officer corps and we appreciate that support.

With very much appreciation I wish to acknowledge the cooperation and assistance received from Administrative Director Stephen L. Edmiston and his staff. The National Headquarters support is vital to the overall successful implementation of our varied programs on behalf of this nation's veterans.

A special warm and sincere congratulations to Auxiliary National Commander Shelia Allred and Auxiliary National Adjutant Maria Tedrow. We have seen the DAV Auxiliary grow to over 200,000 members this year and I assure you our National Service Officers will continue their efforts to ensure the continued growth of your great organization. I extend my thanks for your continued support of our staff and DAV programs.

It is a great pleasure and honor to work with National Adjutant Charles E. Joeckel, Jr. for his demonstration of leadership and overall objective of service to veterans has made my duties significantly easier. His continued unwavering support of our programs can only lead this organization to new heights.

A special tribute to the entire staff at National Service and Legislative Headquarters is in order. Our departments work very closely together. As part of our overall team, Jesse Brown, Executive Director, Washington Office, has continued to offer his insight and unique abilities toward assisting the National Service Department in maintaining a tradition of providing only the best service and representation available to our claimants. We look forward to Mr. Brown's continued support of this department in order that we may aim higher and accomplish' more.

And last but certainly not least, a personal thanks to my staff for their efforts and assistance this past year—Charlie Thompson (Assistant National Service Director), Rich Patterson (Associate National Service Director), John Grant (Associate National Service Director) and Ed Kowalczyk (Associate National Service Director for Claims). The dedication and zeal in which they have performed their many

duties is exemplary. They have never failed to accept assigned tasks without enthusiasm aiming at one goal and only one goal, the strengthening of this National Service Program so it is recognized, by all, as the very best.

RECAPITULATION OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES

July 1, 1989 through June 30, 1990

Total National Service Office Report:

1. New service connections	15,201
2. Compensation increases	41,501
3. Compensation maintained	83,266
4. Pension	21,672
5. Pension maintained	10,487
6. Social security	552
7. Education benefits	17,959
8. Miscellaneous	3,986
9. Death compensation	4,370
10. Death pension	5,929
11. Insurance	907
12. Burial allowances	18,877
13. Physical evaluation boards	349
14. Total awards	225,056
15. Total monthly increases	$93,971,885.20
16. Total retroactive payments	$1,177,602,625.75
17. Full amount	$1,271,574,510.95
18. VA files reviewed	405,339
19. Power of attorneys	95,779
20. Interviews	234,231
21. Rating board appearances	231,514
22. Military affairs	7,268
23. Social security activities	3,757
24. New claims	206,071
25. Membership	15,202

Montgomery, Alabama:

1. New service connections	360
2. Compensation increases	1,279
3. Compensation maintained	2,142
4. Pension	766
5. Pension maintained	189
6. Social security	22
7. Education benefits	177
8. Miscellaneous	70
9. Death compensation	78
10. Death pension	159
11. Insurance	3
12. Burial allowances	295
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	5,540
15. Total monthly increases	$2,228,461.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$27,059,199.00
17. Full amount	$29,287,660.00
18. VA files reviewed	7,636
19. Power of attorneys	1,784
20. Interviews	2,276
21. Rating board appearances	5,693
22. Military affairs	22
23. Social security activities	111
24. New claims	2,820
25. Membership	144

RECAPITULATION OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES—Continued

July 1, 1989 through June 30, 1990

Phoenix, Arizona:

1. New service connections	544
2. Compensation increases	970
3. Compensation maintained	1,894
4. Pension	239
5. Pension maintained	130
6. Social security	8
7. Education benefits	828
8. Miscellaneous	80
9. Death compensation	114
10. Death pension	77
11. Insurance	2
12. Burial allowances	411
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	5,297
15. Total monthly increases	$2,245,277.59
16. Total retroactive payments	$27,969,790.00
17. Full amount	$30,215,067.59
18. VA files reviewed	9,162
19. Power of attorneys	1,658
20. Interviews	3,867
21. Rating board appearances	7,221
22. Military affairs	6
23. Social security activities	54
24. New claims	3,000
25. Membership	172

Little Rock, Arkansas:

1. New service connections	277
2. Compensation increases	836
3. Compensation maintained	1,567
4. Pension	671
5. Pension maintained	147
6. Social security	22
7. Education benefits	316
8. Miscellaneous	66
9. Death compensation	87
10. Death pension	174
11. Insurance	2
12. Burial allowances	439
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	4,604
15. Total monthly increases	$1,649,983.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$20,922,640.00
17. Full amount	$22,572,623.00
18. VA files reviewed	9,151
19. Power of attorneys	1,700
20. Interviews	3,923
21. Rating board appearances	565
22. Military affairs	26
23. Social security activities	172
24. New claims	1,856
25. Membership	205

San Francisco, California:

1. New service connections	917
2. Compensation increases	964
3. Compensation maintained	2,336
4. Pension	198

RECAPITULATION OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES—Continued

July 1, 1989 through June 30, 1990

5. Pension maintained	137
6. Social security	17
7. Education benefits	1,257
8. Miscellaneous	141
9. Death compensation	149
10. Death pension	36
11. Insurance	8
12. Burial allowances	474
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	6,634
15. Total monthly increases	$2,622,792.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$35,847,306.00
17. Full amount	$38,470,098.00
18. VA files reviewed	12,228
19. Power of attorneys	3,003
20. Interviews	5,268
21. Rating board appearances	6,391
22. Military affairs	1,806
23. Social security activities	92
24. New claims	5,319
25. Membership	402

San Diego, California:

1. New service connections	785
2. Compensation increases	490
3. Compensation maintained	1,262
4. Pension	832
5. Pension maintained	114
6. Social security	1
7. Education benefits	1,853
8. Miscellaneous	60
9. Death compensation	128
10. Death pension	59
11. Insurance	0
12. Burial allowances	250
13. Physical evaluation boards	103
14. Total awards	5,937
15. Total monthly increases	$2,890,018.25
16. Total retroactive payments	$25,852,742.01
17. Full amount	$28,742,760.26
18. VA files reviewed	21,103
19. Power of attorneys	4,646
20. Interviews	18,776
21. Rating board appearances	4,342
22. Military affairs	1,517
23. Social security activities	15
24. New claims	4,678
25. Membership	1,473

W. Los Angeles, California:

1. New service connections	391
2. Compensation increases	998
3. Compensation maintained	1,705
4. Pension	2,296
5. Pension maintained	78
6. Social security	8
7. Education benefits	467
8. Miscellaneous	543
9. Death compensation	120
10. Death pension	378
11. Insurance	57

RECAPITULATION OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES—Continued

July 1, 1989 through June 30, 1990

12. Burial allowances	491
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	7,532
15. Total monthly increases	$2,503,178.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$33,208,378.00
17. Full amount	$35,711,556.00
18. VA files reviewed	12,715
19. Power of attorneys	5,585
20. Interviews	8,734
21. Rating board appearances	7,224
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	11
24. New claims	8,776
25. Membership	1,131

Denver, Colorado:

1. New service connections	580
2. Compensation increases	771
3. Compensation maintained	1,400
4. Pension	171
5. Pension maintained	117
6. Social security	10
7. Education benefits	610
8. Miscellaneous	70
9. Death compensation	67
10. Death pension	77
11. Insurance	6
12. Burial allowances	336
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	4,215
15. Total monthly increases	$1,572,953.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$21,037,744.00
17. Full amount	$22,610,697.00
18. VA files reviewed	8,619
19. Power of attorneys	2,756
20. Interviews	2,226
21. Rating board appearances	5,831
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	46
24. New claims	3,300
25. Membership	108

Hartford, Connecticut:

1. New service connections	81
2. Compensation increases	445
3. Compensation maintained	778
4. Pension	90
5. Pension maintained	29
6. Social security	2
7. Education benefits	36
8. Miscellaneous	48
9. Death compensation	47
10. Death pension	16
11. Insurance	2
12. Burial allowances	181
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	1,755
15. Total monthly increases	$786,933.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$10,321,408.00
17. Full amount	$11,108,341.00
18. VA files reviewed	3,223

RECAPITULATION OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES—Continued

July 1, 1989 through June 30, 1990

19. Power of attorneys	430
20. Interviews	1,446
21. Rating board appearances	2,006
22. Military affairs	35
23. Social security activities	129
24. New claims	1,226
25. Membership	225

Wilmington, Delaware:

1. New service connections	39
2. Compensation increases	130
3. Compensation maintained	103
4. Pension	119
5. Pension maintained	0
6. Social security	2
7. Education benefits	137
8. Miscellaneous	12
9. Death compensation	15
10. Death pension	21
11. Insurance	0
12. Burial allowances	68
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	646
15. Total monthly increases	$240,077.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$3,280,525.00
17. Full amount	$3,520,602.00
18. VA files reviewed	3,877
19. Power of attorneys	157
20. Interviews	1,201
21. Rating board appearances	912
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	2
24. New claims	1,033
25. Membership	332

Washington, D.C.:

1. New service connections	215
2. Compensation increases	682
3. Compensation maintained	726
4. Pension	50
5. Pension maintained	69
6. Social security	1
7. Education benefits	44
8. Miscellaneous	21
9. Death compensation	86
10. Death pension	38
11. Insurance	15
12. Burial allowances	191
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	2,138
15. Total monthly increases	$1,127,110.50
16. Total retroactive payments	$11,292,617.50
17. Full amount	$12,419,728.00
18. VA files reviewed	10,515
19. Power of attorneys	1,466
20. Interviews	2,827
21. Rating board appearances	1,519
22. Military affairs	2,259
23. Social security activities	47
24. New claims	1,465
25. Membership	113

RECAPITULATION OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES—Continued

July 1, 1989 through June 30, 1990

St. Petersburg, Florida:

1. New service connections	1,018
2. Compensation increases	2,972
3. Compensation maintained	7,329
4. Pension	1,771
5. Pension maintained	970
6. Social security	16
7. Education benefits	39
8. Miscellaneous	254
9. Death compensation	420
10. Death pension	323
11. Insurance	79
12. Burial allowances	1,394
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	16,585
15. Total monthly increases	$6,926,026.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$85,469,471.00
17. Full amount	$92,395,497.00
18. VA files reviewed	29,054
19. Power of attorneys	6,158
20. Interviews	8,491
21. Rating board appearances	13,663
22. Military affairs	152
23. Social security activities	91
24. New claims	14,619
25. Membership	263

Atlanta, Georgia:

1. New service connections	219
2. Compensation increases	627
3. Compensation maintained	1,349
4. Pension	48
5. Pension maintained	102
6. Social security	3
7. Education benefits	19
8. Miscellaneous	45
9. Death compensation	44
10. Death pension	14
11. Insurance	14
12. Burial allowances	165
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	2,649
15. Total monthly increases	$1,230,991.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$15,972,353.00
17. Full amount	$17,203,344.00
18. VA files reviewed	5,316
19. Power of attorneys	1,045
20. Interviews	2,603
21. Rating board appearances	3,049
22. Military affairs	1
23. Social security activities	62
24. New claims	18,661
25. Membership	96

Honolulu, Hawaii:

1. New service connections	73
2. Compensation increases	103
3. Compensation maintained	261
4. Pension	5

RECAPITULATION OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES—Continued

July 1, 1989 through June 30, 1990

5. Pension maintained	8
6. Social security	1
7. Education benefits	9
8. Miscellaneous	1
9. Death compensation	10
10. Death pension	2
11. Insurance	22
12. Burial allowances	74
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	569
15. Total monthly increases	$231,734.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$3,789,006.00
17. Full amount	$4,020,740.00
18. VA files reviewed	1,215
19. Power of attorneys	238
20. Interviews	1,089
21. Rating board appearances	567
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	6
24. New claims	911
25. Membership	20

Boise, Idaho:

1. New service connections	249
2. Compensation increases	312
3. Compensation maintained	667
4. Pension	76
5. Pension maintained	20
6. Social security	14
7. Education benefits	329
8. Miscellaneous	20
9. Death compensation	27
10. Death pension	25
11. Insurance	2
12. Burial allowances	134
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	1,875
15. Total monthly increases	$758,960.25
16. Total retroactive payments	$9,716,414.00
17. Full amount	$10,475,374.25
18. VA files reviewed	2,988
19. Power of attorneys	1,642
20. Interviews	2,059
21. Rating board appearances	1,596
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	174
24. New claims	3,110
25. Membership	73

Chicago, Illinois:

1. New service connections	434
2. Compensation increases	1,164
3. Compensation maintained	2,536
4. Pension	817
5. Pension maintained	340
6. Social security	18
7. Education benefits	198
8. Miscellaneous	233
9. Death compensation	77
10. Death pension	149
11. Insurance	78

RECAPITULATION OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES—Continued

July 1, 1989 through June 30, 1990

12. Burial allowances	570
13. Physical evaluation boards	26
14. Total awards	6,640
15. Total monthly increases	$2,337,379.67
16. Total retroactive payments	$30,668,569.92
17. Full amount	$33,005,949.59
18. VA files reviewed	12,650
19. Power of attorneys	2,343
20. Interviews	3,656
21. Rating board appearances	10,138
22. Military affairs	119
23. Social security activities	51
24. New claims	4,197
25. Membership	213

Indianapolis, Indiana:

1. New service connections	248
2. Compensation increases	832
3. Compensation maintained	1,364
4. Pension	186
5. Pension maintained	121
6. Social security	18
7. Education benefits	309
8. Miscellaneous	69
9. Death compensation	81
10. Death pension	109
11. Insurance	0
12. Burial allowances	317
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	3,654
15. Total monthly increases	$1,360,955.96
16. Total retroactive payments	$16,658,572.16
17. Full amount	$18,019,528.12
18. VA files reviewed	5,527
19. Power of attorneys	1,635
20. Interviews	2,018
21. Rating board appearances	4,758
22. Military affairs	17
23. Social security activities	188
24. New claims	3,545
25. Membership	528

Des Moines, Iowa:

1. New service connections	135
2. Compensation increases	417
3. Compensation maintained	863
4. Pension	320
5. Pension maintained	114
6. Social security	4
7. Education benefits	172
8. Miscellaneous	271
9. Death compensation	46
10. Death pension	80
11. Insurance	74
12. Burial allowances	292
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	2,788
15. Total monthly increases	$924,146.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$12,120,722.00
17. Full amount	$13,044,868.00
18. VA files reviewed	4,832

RECAPITULATION OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES—Continued

July 1, 1989 through June 30, 1990

19. Power of attorneys	965
20. Interviews	1,910
21. Rating board appearances	3,224
22. Military affairs	2
23. Social security activities	10
24. New claims	2,085
25. Membership	257

Wichita, Kansas:

1. New service connections	211
2. Compensation increases	511
3. Compensation maintained	666
4. Pension	267
5. Pension maintained	189
6. Social security	22
7. Education benefits	261
8. Miscellaneous	74
9. Death compensation	48
10. Death pension	92
11. Insurance	2
12. Burial allowances	183
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	2,526
15. Total monthly increases	$937,569.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$13,513,903.00
17. Full amount	$14,451,472.00
18. VA files reviewed	5,048
19. Power of attorneys	806
20. Interviews	3,775
21. Rating board appearances	2,020
22. Military affairs	5
23. Social security activities	161
24. New claims	258
25. Membership	100

Louisville, Kentucky:

1. New service connections	189
2. Compensation increases	399
3. Compensation maintained	1,302
4. Pension	347
5. Pension maintained	48
6. Social security	0
7. Education benefits	74
8. Miscellaneous	19
9. Death compensation	60
10. Death pension	197
11. Insurance	4
12. Burial allowances	701
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	3,340
15. Total monthly increases	$1,288,128.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$17,953,209.00
17. Full amount	$19,241,337.00
18. VA files reviewed	8,146
19. Power of attorneys	2,078
20. Interviews	2,032
21. Rating board appearances	6,660
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	2
24. New claims	7,531
25. Membership	100

RECAPITULATION OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES—Continued

July 1, 1989 through June 30, 1990

New Orleans, Louisiana:

1. New service connections	315
2. Compensation increases	788
3. Compensation maintained	1,338
4. Pension	338
5. Pension maintained	108
6. Social security	9
7. Education benefits	299
8. Miscellaneous	41
9. Death compensation	78
10. Death pension	57
11. Insurance	3
12. Burial allowances	209
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	3,583
15. Total monthly increases	$1,587,038.41
16. Total retroactive payments	$17,952,317.25
17. Full amount	$19,539,355.66
18. VA files reviewed	3,840
19. Power of attorneys	1,610
20. Interviews	2,929
21. Rating board appearances	3,518
22. Military affairs	2
23. Social security activities	35
24. New claims	3,427
25. Membership	134

Togus, Maine:

1. New service connections	96
2. Compensation increases	435
3. Compensation maintained	752
4. Pension	302
5. Pension maintained	1
6. Social security	5
7. Education benefits	144
8. Miscellaneous	3
9. Death compensation	22
10. Death pension	34
11. Insurance	1
12. Burial allowances	89
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	1,884
15. Total monthly increases	$1,081,969.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$11,839,852.00
17. Full amount	$12,921,821.00
18. VA files reviewed	2,520
19. Power of attorneys	496
20. Interviews	2,168
21. Rating board appearances	709
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	12
24. New claims	732
25. Membership	305

Baltimore, Maryland:

1. New service connections	123
2. Compensation increases	468
3. Compensation maintained	573
4. Pension	55

RECAPITULATION OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES—Continued

July 1, 1989 through June 30, 1990

5. Pension maintained	23
6. Social security	1
7. Education benefits	24
8. Miscellaneous	13
9. Death compensation	45
10. Death pension	25
11. Insurance	1
12. Burial allowances	154
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	1,605
15. Total monthly increases	$624,492.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$8,319,072.75
17. Full amount	$8,943,564.75
18. VA files reviewed	1,985
19. Power of attorneys	444
20. Interviews	2,016
21. Rating board appearances	1,015
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	5
24. New claims	636
5. Membership	115

Boston, Massachusetts:

1. New service connections	283
2. Compensation increases	1,021
3. Compensation maintained	1,676
4. Pension	184
5. Pension maintained	345
6. Social security	3
7. Education benefits	104
8. Miscellaneous	9
9. Death compensation	94
10. Death pension	97
11. Insurance	3
12. Burial allowances	383
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	4,202
15. Total monthly increases	$1,664,408.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$21,898,453.00
17. Full amount	$23,562,861.00
18. VA files reviewed	19,758
19. Power of attorneys	2,317
20. Interviews	9,890
21. Rating board appearances	10,232
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	30
24. New claims	3,279
25. Membership	182

Detroit, Michigan:

1. New service connections	218
2. Compensation increases	1,055
3. Compensation maintained	1,667
4. Pension	667
5. Pension maintained	484
6. Social security	23
7. Education benefits	716
8. Miscellaneous	60
9. Death compensation	113
10. Death pension	457
11. Insurance	46

RECAPITULATION OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES—Continued

July 1, 1989 through June 30, 1990

12. Burial allowances	656
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	6,162
15. Total monthly increases	$2,255,560.98
16. Total retroactive payments	$25,498,441.26
17. Full amount	$27,754,002.24
18. VA files reviewed	9,106
19. Power of attorneys	1,725
20. Interviews	3,327
21. Rating board appearances	3,884
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	129
24. New claims	4,725
25. Membership	186

St. Paul, Minnesota:

1. New service connections	436
2. Compensation increases	989
3. Compensation maintained	1,639
4. Pension	428
5. Pension maintained	56
6. Social security	10
7. Education benefits	535
8. Miscellaneous	227
9. Death compensation	64
10. Death pension	149
11. Insurance	71
12. Burial allowances	261
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	41,865
15. Total monthly increases	$3,008,593.64
16. Total retroactive payments	$25,022,790.64
17. Full amount	$28,031,384.28
18. VA files reviewed	8,430
19. Power of attorneys	1,250
20. Interviews	2,067
21. Rating board appearances	5,736
22. Military affairs	2
23. Social security activities	53
24. New claims	8,118
25. Membership	94

Jackson, Mississippi:

1. New service connections	163
2. Compensation increases	18
3. Compensation maintained	933
4. Pension	245
5. Pension maintained	87
6. Social security	1
7. Education benefits	223
8. Miscellaneous	25
9. Death compensation	31
10. Death pension	39
11. Insurance	5
12. Burial allowances	264
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	2,434
15. Total monthly increases	$928,350.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$12,537,493.00
17. Full amount	$13,465,843.00
18. VA files reviewed	2,259

RECAPITULATION OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES—Continued

July 1, 1989 through June 30, 1990

19. Power of attorneys	754
20. Interviews	1,311
21. Rating board appearances	1,638
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	13
24. New claims	2,075
25. Membership	59

Kansas City, Missouri:

1. New service connections	0
2. Compensation increases	0
3. Compensation maintained	0
4. Pension	0
5. Pension maintained	0
6. Social security	0
7. Education benefits	0
8. Miscellaneous	0
9. Death compensation	0
10. Death pension	0
11. Insurance	0
12. Burial allowances	0
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	0
15. Total monthly increases	$0.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$0.00
17. Full amount	$0.00
18. VA files reviewed	753
19. Power of attorneys	0
20. Interviews	7,025
21. Rating board appearances	0
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	0
24. New claims	0
25. Membership	109

St Louis, Missouri:

1. New service connections	401
2. Compensation increases	1,052
3. Compensation maintained	2,641
4. Pension	429
5. Pension maintained	613
6. Social security	8
7. Education benefits	062
8. Miscellaneous	73
9. Death compensation	60
10. Death pension	107
11. Insurance	6
12. Burial allowances	412
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	6,264
15. Total monthly increases	$2,997,739.80
16. Total retroactive payments	$30,758,090.81
17. Full amount	$33,755,830.61
18. VA files reviewed	9,031
19. Power of attorneys	2,221
20. Interviews	2,388
21. Rating board appearances	6,229
22. Military affairs	55
23. Social security activities	77
24. New claims	8,765
25. Membership	1,225

RECAPITULATION OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES—Continued

July 1, 1989 through June 30, 1990

Fort Harrison, Montana:

1. New service connections	66
2. Compensation increases	293
3. Compensation maintained	340
4. Pension	112
5. Pension maintained	18
6. Social security	5
7. Education benefits	53
8. Miscellaneous	24
9. Death compensation	24
10. Death pension	8
11. Insurance	5
12. Burial allowances	169
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	1,117
15. Total monthly increases	$453,602.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$5,108,865.20
17. Full amount	$5,562,467.20
18. VA files reviewed	555
19. Power of attorneys	374
20. Interviews	3,189
21. Rating board appearances	584
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	4
24. New claims	478
25. Membership	91

Lincoln, Nebraska:

1. New service connections	104
2. Compensation increases	266
3. Compensation maintained	558
4. Pension	90
5. Pension maintained	39
6. Social security	1
7. Education benefits	114
8. Miscellaneous	16
9. Death compensation	12
10. Death pension	23
11. Insurance	2
12. Burial allowances	146
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	1,371
15. Total monthly increases	$619,334.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$7,422,002.00
17. Full amount	$8,041,336.00
18. VA files reviewed	1,525
19. Power of attorneys	607
20. Interviews	963
21. Rating board appearances	1,284
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	40
24. New claims	738
25. Membership	15

Reno, Nevada:

1. New service connections	96
2. Compensation increases	249
3. Compensation maintained	388
4. Pension	106

RECAPITULATION OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES—Continued

July 1, 1989 through June 30, 1990

5. Pension maintained	37
6. Social security	1
7. Education benefits	222
8. Miscellaneous	43
9. Death compensation	18
10. Death pension	12
11. Insurance	1
12. Burial allowances	128
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	1,301
15. Total monthly increases	$420,469.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$5,664,812.00
17. Full amount	$6,085,281.00
18. VA files reviewed	1,332
19. Power of attorneys	811
20. Interviews	973
21. Rating board appearances	1,048
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	4
24. New claims	870
25. Membership	45

Manchester, New Hampshire:

1. New service connections	71
2. Compensation increases	318
3. Compensation maintained	423
4. Pension	134
5. Pension maintained	392
6. Social security	12
7. Education benefits	182
8. Miscellaneous	32
9. Death compensation	25
10. Death pension	49
11. Insurance	0
12. Burial allowances	125
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	1,763
15. Total monthly increases	$754,407.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$7,618,904.00
17. Full amount	$8,373,311.00
18. VA files reviewed	2,468
19. Power of attorneys	406
20. Interviews	4,679
21. Rating board appearances	1,667
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	32
24. New claims	337
25. Membership	183

Newark, New Jersey:

1. New service connections	181
2. Compensation increases	1,008
3. Compensation maintained	2,088
4. Pension	158
5. Pension maintained	236
6. Social security	5
7. Education benefits	101
8. Miscellaneous	47
9. Death compensation	78
10. Death pension	71
11. Insurance	42

RECAPITULATION OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES—Continued

July 1, 1989 through June 30, 1990

12. Burial allowances	426
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	4,441
15. Total monthly increases	$2,197,033.91
16. Total retroactive payments	$22,986,618.13
17. Full amount	$25,183,652.04
18. VA files reviewed	9,862
19. Power of attorneys	1,389
20. Interviews	3,259
21. Rating board appearances	3,979
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	12
24. New claims	4,819
25. Membership	101

Albuquerque, New Mexico:

1. New service connections	206
2. Compensation increases	424
3. Compensation maintained	1,271
4. Pension	1,292
5. Pension maintained	884
6. Social security	15
7. Education benefits	527
8. Miscellaneous	3
9. Death compensation	109
10. Death pension	278
11. Insurance	3
12. Burial allowances	280
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	5,292
15. Total monthly increases	$2,422,294.35
16. Total retroactive payments	$27,672,309.45
17. Full amount	$30,094,603.80
18. VA files reviewed	3,216
19. Power of attorneys	1,440
20. Interviews	4,722
21. Rating board appearances	2,082
22. Military affairs	62
23. Social security activities	361
24. New claims	2,640
25. Membership	321

Albany, New York:

1. New service connections	0
2. Compensation increases	0
3. Compensation maintained	0
4. Pension	0
5. Pension maintained	0
6. Social security	10
7. Education benefits	0
8. Miscellaneous	0
9. Death compensation	0
10. Death pension	0
11. Insurance	0
12. Burial allowances	0
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	10
15. Total monthly increases	$5,036.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$95,027.00
17. Full amount	$100,063.00
18. VA files reviewed	164

RECAPITULATION OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES—Continued

July 1, 1989 through June 30, 1990

19. Power of attorneys	343
20. Interviews	1,857
21. Rating board appearances	0
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	39
24. New claims	1,213
25. Membership	41

Buffalo, New York:

1. New service connections	140
2. Compensation increases	476
3. Compensation maintained	2,093
4. Pension	141
5. Pension maintained	318
6. Social security	8
7. Education benefits	484
8. Miscellaneous	39
9. Death compensation	50
10. Death pension	49
11. Insurance	3
12. Burial allowances	217
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	4,018
15. Total monthly increases	$1,998,224.12
16. Total retroactive payments	$22,810,245.44
17. Full amount	$24,808,469.56
18. VA files reviewed	8,464
19. Power of attorneys	1,106
20. Interviews	1,433
21. Rating board appearances	5,248
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	15
24. New claims	2,609
25. Membership	149

New York, New York:

1. New service connections	240
2. Compensation increases	1,092
3. Compensation maintained	2,786
4. Pension	214
5. Pension maintained	875
6. Social security	4
7. Education benefits	150
8. Miscellaneous	76
9. Death compensation	203
10. Death pension	177
11. Insurance	6
12. Burial allowances	494
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	6,317
15. Total monthly increases	$3,186,506.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$41,470,205.00
17. Full amount	$44,656,711.00
18. VA files reviewed	9,430
19. Power of attorneys	1,785
20. Interviews	6,099
21. Rating board appearances	4,781
22. Military affairs	16
23. Social security activities	67
24. New claims	2,104
25. Membership	542

RECAPITULATION OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES—Continued

July 1, 1989 through June 30, 1990

Syracuse, New York:

1. New service connections	0
2. Compensation increases	0
3. Compensation maintained	0
4. Pension	0
5. Pension maintained	0
6. Social security	25
7. Education benefits	0
8. Miscellaneous	0
9. Death compensation	0
10. Death pension	0
11. Insurance	0
12. Burial allowances	0
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	25
15. Total monthly increases	$17,389.90
16. Total retroactive payments	$360,490.23
17. Full amount	$377,880.13
18. VA files reviewed	427
19. Power of attorneys	384
20. Interviews	2,131
21. Rating board appearances	1
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	39
24. New claims	3,098
25. Membership	90

Winston-Salem, North Carolina:

1. New service connections	215
2. Compensation increases	1,096
3. Compensation maintained	1,201
4. Pension	217
5. Pension maintained	121
6. Social security	13
7. Education benefits	519
8. Miscellaneous	14
9. Death compensation	91
10. Death pension	56
11. Insurance	6
12. Burial allowances	350
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	3,899
15. Total monthly increases	$1,797,481.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$18,427,856.00
17. Full amount	$20,225,337.00
18. VA files reviewed	8,141
19. Power of attorneys	2,877
20. Interviews	2,426
21. Rating board appearances	5,406
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	14
24. New claims	5,381
25. Membership	163

Fargo, North Dakota:

1. New service connections	145
2. Compensation increases	311
3. Compensation maintained	404
4. Pension	276

RECAPITULATION OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES—Continued

July 1, 1989 through June 30, 1990

5. Pension maintained	83
6. Social security	8
7. Education benefits	476
8. Miscellaneous	15
9. Death compensation	44
10. Death pension	114
11. Insurance	0
12. Burial allowances	158
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	2,034
15. Total monthly increases	$703,880.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$8,177,946.00
17. Full amount	$8,881,826.00
18. VA files reviewed	3,659
19. Power of attorneys	598
20. Interviews	1,803
21. Rating board appearances	1,156
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	51
24. New claims	1,126
25. Membership	218

Cincinnati, Ohio:

1. New service connections	0
2. Compensation increases	0
3. Compensation maintained	0
4. Pension	0
5. Pension maintained	0
6. Social security	9
7. Education benefits	0
8. Miscellaneous	0
9. Death compensation	0
10. Death pension	0
11. Insurance	0
12. Burial allowances	0
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	9
15. Total monthly increases	$4,826.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$151,675.00
17. Full amount	$156,501.00
18. VA files reviewed	294
19. Power of attorneys	724
20. Interviews	3,112
21. Rating board appearances	205
22. Military affairs	33
23. Social security activities	92
24. New claims	2,682
25. Membership	97

Cleveland, Ohio:

1. New service connections	240
2. Compensation increases	1,390
3. Compensation maintained	3,157
4. Pension	850
5. Pension maintained	629
6. Social security	3
7. Education benefits	473
8. Miscellaneous	23
9. Death compensation	245
10. Death pension	529
11. Insurance	33

RECAPITULATION OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES—Continued

July 1, 1989 through June 30, 1990

12. Burial allowances	1,541
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	9,113
15. Total monthly increases	$3,540,431.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$44,476,792.00
17. Full amount	$48,017,223.00
18. VA files reviewed	17,437
19. Power of attorneys	2,977
20. Interviews	8,950
21. Rating board appearances	12,446
22. Military affairs	44
23. Social security activities	59
24. New claims	1,930
25. Membership	319

Muskogee, Oklahoma:

1. New service connections	387
2. Compensation increases	987
3. Compensation maintained	1,455
4. Pension	1,141
5. Pension maintained	271
6. Social security	7
7. Education benefits	392
8. Miscellaneous	5
9. Death compensation	98
10. Death pension	265
11. Insurance	0
12. Burial allowances	468
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	5,476
15. Total monthly increases	$1,711,873.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$34,120,100.57
17. Full amount	$35,831,973.57
18. VA files reviewed	9,838
19. Power of attorneys	1,860
20. Interviews	2,925
21. Rating board appearances	3,600
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	93
24. New claims	5,360
25. Membership	127

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma:

1. New service connections	0
2. Compensation increases	0
3. Compensation maintained	0
4. Pension	0
5. Pension maintained	0
6. Social security	0
7. Education benefits	0
8. Miscellaneous	0
9. Death compensation	0
10. Death pension	0
11. Insurance	0
12. Burial allowances	0
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	0
15. Total monthly increases	$0.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$0.00
17. Full amount	$0.00
18. VA files reviewed	0

RECAPITULATION OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES—Continued

July 1, 1989 through June 30, 1990

19. Power of attorneys	386
20. Interviews	3,928
21. Rating board appearances	0
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	0
24. New claims	488
25. Membership	78

Portland, Oregon:

1. New service connections	176
2. Compensation increases	649
3. Compensation maintained	1,231
4. Pension	167
5. Pension maintained	82
6. Social security	10
7. Education benefits	378
8. Miscellaneous	34
9. Death compensation	76
10. Death pension	48
11. Insurance	5
12. Burial allowances	281
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	3,137
15. Total monthly increases	$1,440,462.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$18,572,948.50
17. Full amount	$20,013,410.50
18. VA files reviewed	5,077
19. Power of attorneys	1,121
20. Interviews	2,515
21. Rating board appearances	4,481
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	33
24. New claims	3,412
25. Membership	275

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania:

1. New service connections	309
2. Compensation increases	1,249
3. Compensation maintained	2,236
4. Pension	457
5. Pension maintained	131
6. Social security	5
7. Education benefits	381
8. Miscellaneous	200
9. Death compensation	125
10. Death pension	81
11. Insurance	229
12. Burial allowances	512
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	5,915
15. Total monthly increases	$2,043,885.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$27,631,233.00
17. Full amount	$29,675,118.00
18. VA files reviewed	6,278
19. Power of attorneys	1,852
20. Interviews	3,280
21. Rating board appearances	4,099
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	33
24. New claims	2,197
25. Membership	79

RECAPITULATION OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES—Continued

July 1, 1989 through June 30, 1990

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania:

1. New service connections	298
2. Compensation increases	728
3. Compensation maintained	3,030
4. Pension	375
5. Pension maintained	519
6. Social security	14
7. Education benefits	60
8. Miscellaneous	67
9. Death compensation	97
10. Death pension	206
11. Insurance	15
12. Burial allowances	475
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	5,884
15. Total monthly increases	$2,202,404.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$26,854,582.00
17. Full amount	$29,056,986.00
18. VA files reviewed	12,084
19. Power of attorneys	2,449
20. Interviews	2,763
21. Rating board appearances	5,259
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	104
24. New claims	5,034
25. Membership	482

Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania:

1. New service connections	0
2. Compensation increases	0
3. Compensation maintained	0
4 Pension	0
5. Pension maintained	0
6. Social security	0
7. Education benefits	0
8. Miscellaneous	0
9. Death compensation	0
10. Death pension	0
11. Insurance	0
12. Burial allowances	0
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	0
15. Total monthly increases	$0.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$0.00
17. Full amount	$0.00
18. VA files reviewed	167
19. Power of attorneys	164
20. Interviews	1,775
21. Rating board appearances	131
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	0
24. New claims	439
25. Membership	54

San Juan, Puerto Rico:

1. New service connections	13
2. Compensation increases	242
3. Compensation maintained	794
4. Pension	48

RECAPITULATION OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES—Continued

July 1, 1989 through June 30, 1990

5. Pension maintained	76
6. Social security	2
7. Education benefits	121
8. Miscellaneous	13
9. Death compensation	16
10. Death pension	5
11. Insurance	0
12. Burial allowances	4
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	1,334
15. Total monthly increases	$943,024.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$11,388,555.00
17. Full amount	$12,331,579.00
18. VA files reviewed	2,500
19. Power of attorneys	228
20. Interviews	4,205
21. Rating board appearances	1,347
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	0
24. New claims	186
25. Membership	91

Providence, Rhode Island:

1. New service connections	85
2. Compensation increases	256
3. Compensation maintained	1,064
4. Pension	75
5. Pension maintained	60
6. Social security	1
7. Education benefits	165
8. Miscellaneous	0
9. Death compensation	39
10. Death pension	9
11. Insurance	0
12. Burial allowances	154
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	1,908
15. Total monthly increases	$787,015.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$9,587,796.00
17. Full amount	$10,374,811.00
18. VA files reviewed	4,591
19. Power of attorneys	762
20. Interviews	2,595
21. Rating board appearances	2,726
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	16
24. New claims	1,417
25. Membership	233

Columbia, South Carolina:

1. New service connections	212
2. Compensation increases	428
3. Compensation maintained	1,078
4. Pension	187
5. Pension maintained	101
6. Social security	2
7. Education benefits	402
8. Miscellaneous	60
9. Death compensation	38
10. Death pension	48
11. Insurance	14

RECAPITULATION OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES—Continued

July 1, 1989 through June 30, 1990

12. Burial allowances	245
13. Physical evaluation boards	24
14. Total awards	2,839
15. Total monthly increases	$1,127,479.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$14,796,584.00
17. Full amount	$15,924,063.00
18. VA files reviewed	3,232
19. Power of attorneys	1,275
20. Interviews	2,953
21. Rating board appearances	1,699
22. Military affairs	14
23. Social security activities	18
24. New claims	4,740
25. Membership	588

Sioux Falls, South Dakota:

1. New service connections	84
2. Compensation increases	197
3. Compensation maintained	307
4. Pension	106
5. Pension maintained	44
6. Social security	0
7. Education benefits	194
8. Miscellaneous	34
9. Death compensation	19
10. Death pension	8
11. Insurance	2
12. Burial allowances	66
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	1,051
15. Total monthly increases	$431,766.57
16. Total retroactive payments	$4,899,475.57
17. Full amount	$5,331,242.14
18. VA files reviewed	1,270
19. Power of attorneys	310
20. Interviews	851
21. Rating board appearances	701
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	0
24. New claims	794
25. Membership	272

Nashville, Tennessee:

1. New service connections	242
2. Compensation increases	415
3. Compensation maintained	1,746
4. Pension	666
5. Pension maintained	169
6. Social security	5
7. Education benefits	26
8. Miscellaneous	78
9. Death compensation	73
10. Death pension	161
11. Insurance	2
12. Burial allowances	345
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	3,928
15. Total monthly increases	$1,681,692.57
16. Total retroactive payments	$21,513,027.93
17. Full amount	$23,194,720.50
18. VA files reviewed	4,454

RECAPITULATION OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES—Continued

July 1, 1989 through June 30, 1990

19. Power of attorneys	1,497
20. Interviews	2,752
21. Rating board appearances	3,462
22. Military affairs	3
23. Social security activities	33
24. New claims	2,851
25. Membership	123

Dallas, Texas:

1. New service connections	0
2. Compensation increases	0
3. Compensation maintained	0
4. Pension	0
5. Pension maintained	0
6. Social security	9
7. Education benefits	0
8. Miscellaneous	2
9. Death compensation	0
10. Death pension	0
11. Insurance	1
12. Burial allowances	0
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	12
15. Total monthly increases	$28,216.32
16. Total retroactive payments	$194,449.22
17. Full amount	$222,665.54
18. VA files reviewed	396
19. Power of attorneys	1,205
20. Interviews	6,394
21. Rating board appearances	21
22. Military affairs	61
23. Social security activities	97
24. New claims	1,070
25. Membership	131

El Paso, Texas:

1. New service connections	0
2. Compensation increases	0
3. Compensation maintained	0
4. Pension	0
5. Pension maintained	0
6. Social security	0
7. Education benefits	0
8. Miscellaneous	0
9. Death compensation	0
10. Death pension	0
11. Insurance	0
12. Burial allowances	0
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	0
15. Total monthly increases	$0.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$0.00
17. Full amount	$0.00
18. VA files reviewed	76
19. Power of attorneys	140
20. Interviews	2,118
21. Rating board appearances	0
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	0
24. New claims	165
25. Membership	50

RECAPITULATION OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES—Continued

July 1, 1989 through June 30, 1990

Houston, Texas:

1. New service connections	554
2. Compensation increases	1,371
3. Compensation maintained	2,327
4. Pension	386
5. Pension maintained	106
6. Social security	6
7. Education benefits	497
8. Miscellaneous	133
9. Death compensation	117
10. Death pension	125
11. Insurance	5
12. Burial allowances	455
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	6,082
15. Total monthly increases	$2,261,593.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$31,928,113.00
17. Full amount	$34,189,706.00
18. VA files reviewed	12,897
19. Power of attorneys	1,182
20. Interviews	3,589
21. Rating board appearances	9,309
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	69
24. New claims	3,137
25. Membership	281

San Antonio, Texas:

1. New service connections	0
2. Compensation increases	0
3. Compensation maintained	0
4. Pension	0
5. Pension maintained	0
6. Social security	36
7. Education benefits	0
8. Miscellaneous	0
9. Death compensation	0
10. Death pension	0
11. Insurance	0
12. Burial allowances	0
13. Physical evaluation boards	196
14. Total awards	232
15. Total monthly increases	$227,505.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$3,111,961.00
17. Full amount	$3,339,466.00
18. VA files reviewed	671
19. Power of attorneys	1,737
20. Interviews	6,388
21. Rating board appearances	0
22. Military affairs	973
23. Social security activities	151
24. New claims	2,955
25. Membership	250

Waco, Texas:

1. New service connections	598
2. Compensation increases	2,465
3. Compensation maintained	3,360
4. Pension	1,022

RECAPITULATION OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES—Continued

July 1, 1989 through June 30, 1990

5. Pension maintained	106
6. Social security	17
7. Education benefits	977
8. Miscellaneous	131
9. Death compensation	252
10. Death pension	326
11. Insurance	15
12. Burial allowances	1,105
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	10,374
15. Total monthly increases	$4,330,162.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$54,189,761.00
17. Full amount	$58,519,923.00
18. VA files reviewed	15,280
19. Power of attorneys	4.445
20. Interviews	3,474
21. Rating board appearances	9,112
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	192
24. New claims	4,857
25. Membership	411

Salt Lake City, Utah:

1. New service connections	120
2. Compensation increases	324
3. Compensation maintained	1,253
4. Pension	113
5. Pension maintained	58
6. Social security	1
7. Education benefits	292
8. Miscellaneous	55
9. Death compensation	25
10. Death pension	42
11. Insurance	2
12. Burial allowances	111
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	2,396
15. Total monthly increases	$1,136,720.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$13,542,421.00
17. Full amount	$14,679,141.00
18. VA files reviewed	3,818
19. Power of attorneys	385
20. Interviews	2,758
21. Rating board appearances	2,325
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	21
24. New claims	1,055
25. Membership	92

White River Junction, Vermont:

1. New service connections	40
2. Compensation increases	75
3. Compensation maintained	252
4. Pension	28
5. Pension maintained	13
6. Social security	0
7. Education benefits	2
8. Miscellaneous	3
9. Death compensation	10
10. Death pension	8
11. Insurance	0

RECAPITULATION OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES—Continued

July 1, 1989 through June 30, 1990

12. Burial allowances	72
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	503
15. Total monthly increases	$267,837.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$3,245,975.00
17. Full amount	$3,513,812.00
18. VA files reviewed	1,399
19. Power of attorneys	281
20. Interviews	1,775
21. Rating board appearances	1,008
22. Military affairs	18
23. Social security activities	24
24. New claims	1,256
25. Membership	45

Roanoke, Virginia:

1. New service connections	183
2. Compensation increases	879
3. Compensation maintained	2,513
4. Pension	446
5. Pension maintained	253
6. Social security	16
7. Education benefits	294
8. Miscellaneous	100
9. Death compensation	67
10. Death pension	84
11. Insurance	7
12. Burial allowances	279
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	5,121
15. Total monthly increases	$2,226,851.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$29,653,836.00
17. Full amount	$31,880,687.00
18. VA files reviewed	10,586
19. Power of attorneys	1,734
20. Interviews	10,520
21. Rating board appearances	4,473
22. Military affairs	18
23. Social security activities	135
24. New claims	4,381
25. Membership	410

Seattle, Washington:

1. New service connections	556
2. Compensation increases	990
3. Compensation maintained	1,795
4. Pension	141
5. Pension maintained	94
6. Social security	3
7. Education benefits	123
8. Miscellaneous	36
9. Death compensation	79
10. Death pension	36
11. Insurance	0
12. Burial allowances	298
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	4,151
15. Total monthly increases	$1,959,864.01
16. Total retroactive payments	$24,666,762.74
17. Full amount	$26,626,626.75
18. VA files reviewed	1,031

RECAPITULATION OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES—Continued

July 1, 1989 through June 30, 1990

19. Power of attorneys	2,968
20. Interviews	3,347
21. Rating board appearances	4,081
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	11
24. New claims	3,725
25. Membership	207

Huntington, West Virginia:

1. New service connections	68
2. Compensation increases	16
3. Compensation maintained	769
4. Pension	121
5. Pension maintained	38
6. Social security	8
7. Education benefits	109
8. Miscellaneous	31
9. Death compensation	20
10. Death pension	31
11. Insurance	0
12. Burial allowances	208
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	1,819
15. Total monthly increases	$742,409.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$35,654,043.00
17. Full amount	$36,396,452.00
18. VA files reviewed	4,283
19. Power of attorneys	1,283
20. Interviews	3,117
21. Rating board appearances	3,087
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	14
24. New claims	1,716
25. Membership	68

1. New service connections	518
2. Compensation increases	1,697
3. Compensation maintained	1,686
4. Pension	580
5. Pension maintained	85
6. Social security	42
7. Education benefits	478
8. Miscellaneous	108
9. Death compensation	98
10. Death pension	86
11. Insurance	3
12. Burial allowances	308
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	5,689
15. Total monthly increases	$2,034,017.40
16. Total retroactive payments	$20,203,773.47
17. Full amount	$22,237,790.87
18. VA files reviewed	6,897
19. Power of attorneys	1,558
20. Interviews	2,823
21. Rating board appearances	5,664
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	106
24. New claims	4,211
25. Membership	93

Cheyenne, Wyoming:

1. New service connections	54
2. Compensation increases	82
3. Compensation maintained	192
4. Pension	6
5. Pension maintained	10
6. Social security	0
7. Education benefits	135
8. Miscellaneous	16
9. Death compensation	11
10. Death pension	3
11. Insurance	0
12. Burial allowances	63
13. Physical evaluation boards	0
14. Total awards	572
15. Total monthly increases	$255,370.00
16. Total retroactive payments	$2,922,400.00
17. Full amount	$3,177,770.00
18. VA files reviewed	853
19. Power of attorneys	224
20. Interviews	492
21. Rating board appearances	702
22. Military affairs	0
23. Social security activities	0
24. New claims	453
25. Membership	23

ANNUAL REPORT JOHN F. HEILMAN, NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR *

National Commander Cardosi, distinguished guests and delegates to this National Convention:

It is a distinct honor and privilege to present to this 69th National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans, the Annual Report of the National Department of Legislation.

Once again I can report to you that the primary legislative mission of the DAV—to protect and improve America's system of benefits and services for our nation's service-connected disabled veterans, their dependents and survivors—has been pursued with vigor and effectiveness since we last met one year ago.

As an indication of the scope and intensity of DAV's legislative activity during the past year, consider that our organization has presented testimony to Committees of the United States Congress having jurisdiction over veterans' issues on 27 separate occasions. The subject matter of this testimony has covered virtually every benefit program that the VA has to offer veterans, their dependents and survivors.

In addition to DAV Legislative staff personnel, our organization's spokesmen have included National Commander Vernon Cardosi, National Adjutant Charles "Butch" Joeckel, Executive Director Jesse Brown and National Employment Director Ronald Drach. Also, as in prior years, DAV Department officials and DAV National Service Officers have participated in local "field hearings" that have been held in various locations throughout the country.

Finally, and most importantly, have been the personal lobbying efforts of you—our DAV and DAVA rank and file national memberships. Your hard work, individually and collectively, has demonstrated in a most meaningful fashion that in America, individual actions can bring influence to bear on governmental decisions. We must not lose sight of this, if our organization is to be able to preserve what veterans' benefits and services we already have, and successfully work for what we shall need in the future.

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* Report closed July 2, 1990.

MAJOR VETERANS LEGISLATION ENACTED INTO LAW SINCE THE 68TH NATIONAL CONVENTION

The Dire Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 1989 (Public Law 101-45, Enacted 6/30/89)

This measure, which provided supplemental funding for a number of federal departments and agencies during Fiscal Year 1989, included $395 million for VA medical care and $844 million for VA entitlement and other obligatory programs—primarily disability compensation, nonservice-connected pension, readjustment and loan guaranty benefits.

The U.S. Court of Veterans Appeals Amendments Act of 1989 (Public Law 101-94, Enacted 8/16/89)

The primary purpose of this measure was to establish a retirement and survivor annuity program for Judges of the U.S. Court of Veterans Appeals, comparable to that afforded to other federal judges and magistrates.

The Dwight D. Eisenhower Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center Act of 1989 (Public Law 101-125, Enacted 10/24/89)

This measure named the VA Medical Center in Leavenworth, Kansas, after President Eisenhower.

The Flag Protection Act of 1989 (Public Law 101-131, Enacted 10/28/89)

This measure created criminal charges and appropriate sanctions for anyone who "knowingly mutilates, defaces, physically defiles, burns, maintains on the floor or ground, or tramples upon" a United States Flag. Such charges and sanctions do not apply to conduct related to the disposal of a worn or soiled flag.

The Department of Veterans Affairs, HUD and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 1990 (Public Law 101-144, Enacted 11/9/89)

This measure appropriated $29.5 billion for all VA programs during Fiscal Year 1990 (10/1/89-9/30/90). The breakdown of major program accounts were as follows:

Compensation and Pensions	$15.3 billion
Readjustment Benefits	501 million
Veterans' Insurance and Indemnities	13.9 million
Loan Guaranty Revolving Fund	313.5 million
Direct Loan Revolving Fund	1 million
Medical Care	11.6 billion
Medical and Prosthetic Research	216 million
Medical Administration and Miscellaneous Operating Expenses	46 million
Grants to the Republic of the Philippines	.5 million
General Operating Expenses	817 million
Office of Inspector General	21.9 million
Construction; Major Projects	420.2 million
Construction, Minor Projects	113.7 million
Parking Garage Revolving Fund	29.3 million
Grants for the Construction of State Extended Care Facilities	42 million
Grants for the Construction of State Veterans Cemeteries	4.3 million

The Veterans Benefits Amendments Act of 1989 (Public Law 101-237, Enacted 12/18/89)

The major sections of this important, multi-provisioned measure included:

A 4.7% across-the-board cost of living adjustment in VA service-connected disability and death compensation (DIC) benefits, including applicable dependency allowances and statutory awards (including the "X" award) which apply, as well as the VA's clothing allowance. The effective date of increase was 12/1/89.

An increase from $60.00 to $90.00 monthly in the amount of nonservice-connected pension payable to a single veteran with no dependents who is being furnished nursing home or domiciliary care by the VA for any period after the end of the third full calendar year month following the month of admission and removal of the current requirement that reduces a single veteran's pension while furnished hospital care by the VA.

Entitlement to the Annual Clothing Allowance for veterans who use medication which has been prescribed by a physician for a skin condition due to a service-connected disability, which the Secretary determined causes irreparable damage to a veteran's clothing.

A reduction in the length of marriage requirement, from two years to one year, for surviving spouses under the presumptive PIC program.

Lowering from 50 to 45 the age for which mandatory evaluation of vocational rehabilitation potential must be conducted for purposes of the vocational training program for pensioners.

Providing that a veteran who secures employment as a result of participation in the vocational training program for nonservice-connected pensioners, may not have his or her rating of permanent and total disability for pension purposes altered until the veteran first maintains such employment for a period not less than 12 consecutive months.

A requirement that the VA provide claimants with a timely notice of decisions relating to their claims for VA benefits and included in that notice an explanation of the procedures for review of the decision when benefits sought are denied.

Permitting health care personnel to be hired under Title 5, USC, (without regard to the competitive civil service) by the VA if they have a recognized degree or certificate from an accredited academic institution and have successfully completed a clinical evaluation program affiliated with the VA.

Providing that no reduction shall be made from the salaries of VA nurses who provide direct patient care as a result of their eligibility for military retirement pay, effective on the first pay period beginning on October 1, 1989 and ending September 30, 1992.

Authorizing the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to reimburse a service-connected disabled veteran who is receiving post training employment services under Chapter 31, Title 38, USC, for certain emergency hospital or medical services which could not reasonably be obtained through the VA or another federal health care facility.

Authorizes the establishment of a new revolving fund, called the Guaranty and Indemnity Fund, to replace the Loan Guaranty Revolving Fund with respect to loans closed after December 31, 1989.

The establishment of a fee structure for the Guaranty and Indemnity Fund as follows:

raise the basic fee to 1.25%;

reduce the loan fee to .75 percent if a borrower makes a downpayment of 5% or more;

reduce the loan fee to .5% if a borrower makes a downpayment of 10% or more;

require the government to contribute .25% of the loan amount in the fiscal year in which the loan is guaranteed and for the next two fiscal years, except that the government contribution for loans made in Fiscal Year 1990 would be paid in two equal installments in Fiscal Years 1991 and 1992;

exempt compensably rated service-connected disabled veterans and spouses of deceased service-connected disabled veterans from payment of the fee;

require government payment of an amount equal to the fee that an exempt borrower is excused from paying;

Provide for the continuation of payment and deposit in the appropriate fund of the 1% fee for direct loans, manufactured housing loans, and vendee loans, with purchasers remaining liable for losses.

Indemnifying veterans who default against liability to the VA except in the case of fraud, misrepresentation, or bad faith by the veteran in obtaining the loan or in connection with the loan default.

Providing additional guaranty entitlements for loans that exceed $144,000 equal to 25% of the loan amount over $144,000, up to a total guaranty of $46,000.

Restoration of entitlement to veterans who have repaid the original guaranty loan but not disposed of the property, as long as restored entitlement is to be used for a loan secured by the same property that secured the original loan.

Make mandatory the granting of waivers of home loan debt if collection of the debt would be against equity and good conscience, and prohibit waivers in cases involving fraud, misrepresentation or bad faith.

Prohibit the receipt of benefits from the Veterans' Educational Assistance Program and the Montgomery GI Bill Selected Reserve Program based on the same period of service.

Permit Montgomery GI Bill active duty participants who first enter service after June 30, 1985, to meet their secondary school diploma requirements by successfully completing the equivalent of 12 semester hours in a program of education leading to a standard college degree before the original ending date of the individual's initial obligated period of active service.

Increase by 7.5% the rate of subsistence allowances for service-connected disabled veterans participating in a rehabilitation program under Chapter 31, Title 38, USC.

Increase by 7.5% the rates of educational assistance for survivors and dependents of service-connected disabled veterans pursuing a program of education under Chapter 35, Title 38, USC.

Expand eligibility for the VA Workstudy Program to survivors and dependents receiving training under Chapter 35, Title 38, USC.

Establish a four year program under which Montgomery GI Bill benefits may be used for flight training.

Make permanent the program of independent living services for service-connected veterans under Chapter 31, Title 38, USC.

Extend the Veterans Readjustment Appointment Authority (VRA) from December 31, 1989 to December 31, 1993.

Provide eligibility for a VRA appointment to veterans of the Vietnam era who are service-connected disabled or who earned a campaign badge of the Vietnam era and to veterans who began active duty after the Vietnam era.

Provide that nondisabled veterans with no more than 16 years of education can participate in the VRA Program.

Increase the maximum grade level appointment in the VRA Program to GS 11 or its equivalent for eligible veterans of the Vietnam era.

Allow training under VRA authority only for those appointees with 14 years of education or less.

Permit payment of the headstone or marker allowance to the estate of the deceased eligible veteran who purchased a headstone prior to death.

Establish an appropriate area in Arlington National Cemetery, not suitable for burial of casketed remains, for the unmarked interment of the cremated remains of persons eligible for interment in the cemetery.

Require the VA to provide graveliners for each new grave in open national cemeteries.

Requiring the VA to take action to collocate at least three VA regional Office onto property occupied by VA Medical Centers and authorize the VA to enter into long-term lease/purchase agreements with private contractors to construct the regional office on VA property.

Add the United States Court of Veterans Appeals to the list of courts covered by the Ethics in Government Act of 1978.

Authorize the Court of Veterans Appeals to compel actions of the VA which have been unreasonably delayed.

The Dire Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act of Fiscal Year 1990 (Public Law 101-302, Enacted 5/25/90)

This measure, which provided emergency supplemental funding for a number of federal departments and agencies during Fiscal Year 1990, included $94 million for VA health care, $190 million for VA compensation and pension entitlements and $245 million for the VA Loan Guaranty Program.

DAV LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES/PENDING LEGISLATION IN THE SECOND SESSION OF THE 101ST CONGRESS

General Accounting Office/VA Task Force Recommendations

Perhaps no other issue in recent years has galvanized the actions of the DAV and its Auxiliary memberships for a sustained period of time than that caused by the General Accounting Office (GAO) and VA consideration of certain proposals to reduce or eliminate entitlements now provided to disabled veterans.

The controversy began in July 1989 when GAO released the results of a study entitled, VA Benefits: *Law Allows Compensation for Disabilities Not Related to Military Service.*

This study, which GAO said was self initiated, declared that if the statutory definition of the eligibility criteria for service-connection of a disability was to be changed to require a direct, causal relationship between the disability and performance of military duty, the VA could "save" approximately $1.7 billion per year in its compensation program (under current law, service-connected status is conferred on any disability that occurs or is aggravated coincident with honorable military service). Such an immediate savings, of course, would require that the entitlements of approximately 550,000 veterans (GAO's estimate) be eliminated. GAO itself recognized the "political difficulty" of severing the entitlements of such a large number of veterans and suggested that the definition change might be prospective in nature. . . that is, affecting only future veterans who incur service-connected disabilities.

The DAV was appalled by the GAO suggestion.

In September of 1989, we asked Secretary of Veterans Affairs Derwinski what the position of the VA would be if someone in the Administration or the Congress should take GAO's suggestion off the table and send it to Capitol Hill in the form of legislation. In essence, Secretary Derwinski advised us that the VA would not formulate a position on the issue until such time that it did become a proposal before the Congress.

A few months later (late November 1989), after receiving the VA's Fiscal Year 1991 budget request slated for submission to the Congress in January 1991, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) directed the VA to include the GAO proposal as a legislative objective for the coming year. The DAV and other service organizations met with Secretary Derwinski in protest with the end result being the removal of the GAO suggestion from the budget "passback". However, Secretary Derwinski warned that it (the GAO proposal) could be taken up again in the future.

It was at this time that the DAV received anonymous "inside information"—with accompanying concrete documentation—that a secret VA task force, composed of top VA program heads and Chaired by the Deputy Secretary, had been meeting for almost a year in consideration of a host of proposals that would reduce or eliminate a wide-range of service-connected entitlements. At the top of this list was the GAO proposal.

In view of our prior discussions with the Secretary concerning the GAO proposal, the DAV felt that the VA had been less than candid with our organization. We also felt that such task force consideration should be held in the open and that veterans' service organization input should have been solicited.

Therefore, in his February 1990 presentation before the House and Senate Veterans Affairs Committee, National Commander Cardosi exposed the existence and intent of the task force. All members of Congress were also informed and the issue was covered conspicuously by the media. Our DAV and Auxiliary memberships, at large, were informed in the April 1990 issue of the *DAV Magazine*.

The VA could not deny the existence of the task force. However, in what we perceived as an attempt at "damage control", the VA downplayed our allegations, claiming that the task force represented only a routine review of the compensation program to "correct inequities", that many of the proposals cited by the DAV had been discarded, and that in no event would the VA consider any action that would reduce or eliminate the entitlements of veterans currently on the roles (in several instances, the anonymous documents received by the DAV specifically stated that current beneficiaries *would be* affected).

Our DAV and DAVA memberships responded in a magnificent fashion to Commander Cardosi's request for grassroots assistance directed at Capitol Hill. Thousands of letters were sent to members of Congress in protest of the VA's action. Coincident with this, a DAV analysis of the GAO report and direct contact with medical speciality societies whom GAO claimed provided input to and agreed with their finding, revealed that the report itself was seriously flawed and intentionally misleading and deceptive. These findings were released to our membership, the Congress, the VA and the media.

All of the above actions and resultant controversy did not force the VA to abandon the task force or discontinue task force considerations. However, we believe that, internally, it has caused the VA to reconsider its position in terms of the chances of eventual success (on Capitol Hill) and the advisability of not seeking veterans' service organization input.

This later point is definitely a fact as the DAV and the VA have entered in a "dialog" on this issue. We have met and are continuing to meet with VA task force members in an effort to reach a consensus on what compensation program modifications, if any, might be worthy of consideration. We have made it crystal clear to the VA that the DAV will never agree to any fundamental, philosophical change in the compensation program such as the GAO proposal invisions. Nor will we agree to any present or future changes that would reduce or eliminate service-connected entitlements for disabilities that have a residual pathological affect or which do cause social or industrial impairment.

We are confident that we shall be able to successfully defend our position on service-connected entitlements, either in our current negotiations with the VA or, if necessary, in the halls of Congress.

VA Funding for Fiscal Year 1991 and Related Actions

In January of this year, the White House proposed a Fiscal Year 1991 budget (10/1/90–9/30/91) for the Department of Veterans Affairs that drew mixed reactions from the DAV and from the Independent Budget (IB) group of veterans' service organizations (AMVETS, DAV, PVA, and VFW).

In the all important area of health care, the budget asked for $12.5 billion, an increase of $1 billion over the request of one year ago. While this figure was much more realistic than previous requests—and Secretary Derwinski is to be commended for his role in securing the add-on—the amount still fails to counteract past years of funding erosion and allow the VA to provide care at necessary levels.

For example, health care staffing was up over Fiscal Year 1990 levels but not enough in the minds of the IB group.

Furthermore, medical and prosthetic research was down 514 million and 421 staff positions and the Administration proposed to recover the cost of treatment of non-service-connected disabilities from service-connected veterans who are covered by private health insurance. Both of these are opposed by the DAV. Finally, the request again proposed the automatic indexing of disability compensation/DIC cost of living adjustments and the institution of a 4% home loan downpayment in the loan guaranty program.

The major categories of the Administration's $30.5 billion budget request are:

Entitlement/Benefits program	$16.3 billion
Medical care	12.5 billion
Construction	694 million
General operating expenses	933 million

The DAV, both independently and as a member of the IB group, testified before a variety of Committees (Veterans Affairs, Appropriations and Budget) in support of funding we believe necessary for all VA programs. The most recent action taken by the House Appropriations Committee increases the Administration's figures by some $813 million to a total allocation of $31.2 billion. The Senate has yet to complete action on its recommendations and, of course, the two bodies will have to resolve any differences. Finally, high level budget/deficit negotiations by Congressional leaders and the White House could also impact in a very definitive way on the total figures for the VA.

Service-Connected Disability and Death Compensation Benefits

Both the House and Senate Veterans Affairs Committees have held hearings and are in the process of proposing an upward adjustment in the rates of VA service-connected disability and death (DIC) compensation benefits.

The House proposal would authorize a 4.1% across the board increase in compensation/DIC entitlements, effective 12/1/90. The Senate measure calls for an increase, effective the same date, commensurate with the same percentage rate of adjustment that will be given to Social Security recipients later this year. Based upon past and projected Consumer Price Index (CPI) movement and actions thus far taken by the two Committees, we anticipate Congressional action on legislation that would authorize an adjustment of service-connected disability and death compensation benefits in the range of 4% to 5%.

Having stated this, it must again be said that the top level budget/deficit negotiations could result in a Congressional and Administration consensus to freeze, reduce, or forego all entitlement adjustments in 1991.

Other compensation and pension related issues addressed by the two Committees during their hearings were:

Delaying the reduction of pension benefits that apply to recipients, who have neither a spouse or child, and who are receiving VA domiciliary or nursing home care and allowing partial reimbursement of the amounts withheld following release from such care.

Raising the estate levels that now apply to incompetent, institutionalized veterans who have neither a spouse or child.

Allowing the VA to accept, for purposes for all programs administered by the VA, gifts, devices and bequeaths that would enhance the VA's ability to provide benefits and services to veterans.

Liberalizing the service-connected disability and death compensation benefit entitlements of atomic veterans, and their survivors, who were exposed to ionizing radiation as a result of military service.

Providing the VA with the authority to apply to only new claims a change in the evaluation methods or standards now set forth in the VA's 1945 Schedule for Rating Disabilities.

Authorizing the VA to provide an increase of up to $10,000 in Service Disabled Veterans Insurance (RH) for service-connected disabled policy holders and increasing the maximum amount of coverage available under the VA's Mortgage Protection Life Insurance Program.

Setting a limitation on the amount of funds held by fiduciaries for incompetent veterans which are subject to inheritance by so-called nondependent, remote heirs.

Agent Orange

Both Veterans Affairs Committees held hearings on the subject of Agent Orange legislation.

The DAV has long taken the position that any disability that is scientifically proven to be the result of exposure to the chemical defoliant known as Agent Orange should be accorded service-connected status by the VA. In addition, our National Convention delegates have approved a resolution calling for a presumption of service-connection to be given to veterans exposed to Agent Orange who have subsequently developed the condition of NonHodgkins Lymphoma.

Although neither the House or Senate have approved Agent Orange legislation this session of Congress (the Senate passed an Agent Orange bill last year), the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, influenced by a California court decision which led to "relaxed" VA regulations, by a recently released selected cancer study of the Centers for Disease Control, and by advice of the VA Herbicide and Radiation Advisory Committee, announced his intention to authorize service-connected status for two conditions diagnosed in veterans who served in Vietnam and its adjacent waters—NonHodgkins Lymphoma and Soft Tissue Sarcoma.

The VA is now in the process of establishing regulations to allow Rating Boards to service-connect these two conditions.

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder

The House Veterans Affairs Committee has held hearings on legislation that proposes to create 40 new Veterans Outreach Centers and 30 new inpatient care units for the treatment of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) diagnosed in veterans who served in Vietnam.

Also, proposed is additional funding for PTSD research and fee basis care, and authority for the VA to use professional health care scholarship money to attract psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers and other PTSD care personnel into the VA system. In addition, it is also proposed to allow treatment of PTSD in halfway houses, which now focus primarily upon substance abuse problems.

The DAV testified in support of reasonable expansion of PTSD treatment by the VA, however, we believe the focus of such treatment should be through inpatient and outpatient care provided at VA medical centers. We also believe that the VA should provide PTSD treatment to other categories of wartime veterans who display appropriate symptoms.

Flag Desecration

The DAV was involved in the controversy that has surrounded the question of the legality or nonlegality of public desecration of the Flag of the United States.

In the summer of last year, when the U.S. Supreme Court struck down the Texas flag desecration statute (and all other similar statutes in other states), our DAV and DAVA memberships, like most Americans, were stunned. Feelings of anger, sadness, confusion and pain swept through our organization.

On an intellectual level, the DAV recognizes the valid freedom of speech, Constitutional concern surrounding the First Amendment. Specifically, that no law can abridge the guaranty of freedom of speech and expression enjoyed by all Americans. But also on an intellectual level, we ask that if a variety of apparently constitutional statutes now prohibit certain types of public behavior and actions that are deemed to be obscene, profane, or counter to the accepted mores of our society, why is public desecration of the flag any different?

And, on an emotional level, we find flag desecration to be totally repugnant and disgraceful.

Last fall, in testimony delivered to the House and Senate Judiciary Committees, the DAV supported passage of legislation, crafted to withstand a constitutional challenge, that would apply appropriate criminal sanctions to willful acts of public flag desecration. We also testified that if such legislation was found to be unconstitutional, the DAV would support a narrowly crafted amendment to the Constitution as a means to prevent desecration of Old Glory.

As everyone is aware, the legislation approved by the Congress last year was also found to be unconstitutional by the Supreme Court and an attempt in the U.S. House of Representatives to approve a Constitutional amendment failed to receive the necessary two-thirds majority vote.

At the present time, the law of our land states that individuals who publicly burn or desecrate our flag, as a means to express an opinion, cannot be criminally prosecuted for their actions.

Other Veterans Legislation and Issues

Thus far this year, the DAV has also testified before Committees of the Congress and/or has been involved in the following issues and subjects:

The quality of VA health care and improvements in the pay scales and benefits of direct care medical personnel.

Veterans employment issues (covered in the report of the DAV National Employment Director).

The National Cemetery System and burial benefit issues.

Confirmation hearings for Associate Judges of the U.S. Court of Veterans Appeals.

VA home loan guaranty benefits and homeless veteran issues.

VA prosthetic and sensory aid services.

The VA's Advisory Commission to study the entire structure of the VA health care system.

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This completes the Annual Report of the Department of Legislation. Many persons associated with DAV legislative actions deserve recognition for their efforts. Our friends in Congress, especially those on the House and Senate Veterans Committees, have again proven themselves to be valuable advocates on behalf of VA benefits and services.

DAV National Adjutant Charles "Butch" Joeckel has given unqualified leadership and support to our efforts.

The entire staffs of our Washington, DC, and Cincinnati, Ohio offices, led by Executive Director Jesse Brown, and Administrative Director Stephen Edmiston, as well as DAV National Service Officers throughout the country have all made valuable contributions. A very special word of thanks must be given to Assistant National Legislative Director for Medical Affairs, David Gorman, Associate National Legislative Director Richard Schultz and former Associate National Legislative Director Paul Breuer—the hard work, initiative and ability of these three men were of immeasurable value.

It is, of course, a pleasure for me to acknowledge the contributions of the wonderful lady that has led our Auxiliary with such dignity and poise during the past year—Shelia Allred. Commander Allred has epitomized the quiet strength, determination and compassion which characterizes the ladies of our great Auxiliary.

Of course, the highest praise must be given to you, the individual DAV/Auxiliary member and to all our Chapter and Department officials who have unhesitatingly and unselfishly responded to our grassroots appeals. Your support and involvement in our legislative activities are the bottom line factors which have enabled and will continue to enable the DAV to achieve its legislative success.

A special note of thanks and appreciation is, of course, extended to our great National Commander, Vernon V. Cardosi. Commander Cardosi has not only received the respect and admiration of many members of Congress for himself, personally, but also for our organization. Without a doubt, the leadership and energy Commander Cardosi has brought to the position of National Commander has materially strengthened the DAV's claim to be the "official spokesmen" for America's service-connected disabled veterans, their dependents and survivors.

ANNUAL REPORT RONALD W. DRACH, NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT DIRECTOR

I am honored and privileged to submit to the delegates at our 69th National Convention my annual report as your National Employment Director and to provide you with an overview of the various activities of this office during the past year.

Our National Service Officers are unequaled in their skill and ability to provide representation to our nation's disabled veterans and their dependents. These National Service Officers and their staffs work long and hard to ensure that our nation's disabled veterans and their dependents receive all of their benefits. They ensure that certain employment rights and benefits, such as veterans' preference and protection under affirmative action laws and regulations, are protected. They also work on national employment, state and local issues, both administratively and legislatively.

The National Employment Department also works very closely with National Legislative Director Rick Heilman, National Service Director Art Wilson, National Director of Voluntary Services Bruce Nitsche, and National Director of Communications Jerry Atchison, and their respective staffs. Although we sometimes have overlapping responsibilities, we work as a team to achieve the organization's goals.

I would be remiss if I did not thank National Auxiliary Commander Shelia Allred and her National Adjutant Maria Tedrow. Both have provided strong leadership and have always responded to our requests for help. I particularly want to thank them, their departments and units for support of the National Journalism Contest, cosponsored by The President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities, the AFL-CIO, the DAV and the Auxiliary.

The National Employment and Associate National Employment Directors are responsible for working with and monitoring several agencies. We follow pending legislation and monitor Congressional oversight. As registered lobbyists, we appear before Congress several times a year on behalf of the organization. The Associate National Employment Director, Lennox E. Gilmer, and I work closely with the National Legislative staff as they appear before Congress on issues affecting veterans' benefits and programs. The Employment Department only handles employment-related legislative issues. We also work closely with Congressional staff on employment legislation.

Last year, we worked with the House and Senate Veterans Affairs' Committees to extend and modify the Veterans Readjustment Appointment (VRA) authority for certain Vietnam era veterans. Shortly before Congress adjourned in late 1989, a VRA bill was passed and signed by the President. The bill was similar to our proposal. However, the one major difference was the deletion from eligibility of Vietnam era veterans who did not actually serve in the Vietnam "theater." The VRA authority was extended and modified to include certain recently separated veterans. We are working closely with the Congressional committees to restore eligibility to all Vietnam era veterans who qualify.

The House Veterans Affairs' Committee's Subcommittee on Education, Employment and Training is continuing its oversight on the Office of Personnel Management's (OPM) affirmative-action efforts for disabled veterans. This oversight in April 1989 followed a General Accounting Office (GAO) study indicating that federal departments and agencies were not totally complying with the law and that OPM was not providing enough guidance and assistance.

A follow-up hearing was conducted in November 1989. A third hearing may be conducted later this summer or early fall. We are encouraged that discussions are ongoing between OPM, Congressman Tim Penny and several agencies. OPM has established a task force to make program recommendations. New language may be needed to improve the existing legislation.

Additional hearings were conducted on the status of the "Project 100,000" veterans—Vietnam era veterans who entered the service with low suitability standards. These veterans have not been tracked in their transition from military service to civilian life. The hearings revealed that very few services have been provided. These veterans may benefit from some proposals still under review.

The House Veterans Affairs' Committee conducted oversight hearings on the Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) Vocational Rehabilitation program. I represented the DAV at those hearings.

The Senate Veterans Affairs' Committee conducted a hearing on the new Department of Labor (DOL) Transition Assistance Program (TAP). Associate National Employment Director Gilmer appeared with Associate National Legislative Director Richard Schultz.

We also monitor the DOL, OPM, U.S. Postal Service (USPS), The President's Committee on Employment of People With Disabilities, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), Small Business Administration (SBA), Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), and VA.

Sometimes, we overlap into areas generally affecting disabled people, including affirmative action, civil rights, disability and longevity retirement, employment, entrepreneurship, equal employment opportunity, homelessness, housing, transportation, and voting rights. We often provide direct technical information and assistance to veterans to enhance their employment prospects.

DAV PROGRAMS

Our National Service Officers use several technical and informational memoranda to respond to general employment inquiries.

We are developing with National Service Director Art Wilson and his staff a model program to assist active-duty military personnel who are scheduled to be discharged. That model will include a section on employment programs and benefits, compensation, vocational rehabilitation, service medical record reviews and general veterans' benefits information. Associate National Employment Director Gilmer has developed extensive information for this program.

In December 1989, Congress mandated the Department of Labor to work with veterans service organizations in developing the TAP/DTAP program (Transition Assistance Program and Disabled Transition Assistance Program). Even though we have developed our own resource material, we continue to work closely with the DOL on developing its resource materials.

We will continue to work closely with DOL, VA and Department of Defense (DoD) in providing these services to those who are soon to be discharged from the military. The need for these services is being compounded by the "downsizing" of the military. We are also considering working with other organizations to provide these services.

The success of this new outreach effort largely depends on our National Service Officers, who have always responded with enthusiasm and professionalism. This outreach is an excellent example of how the various departments within the national organization work together to provide services to our nation's veterans.

We have developed a new award to recognize an individual or organization who has extended a "helping hand" to the DAV or disabled veterans. The award is intended to recognize either individuals, organizations, corporations, foundations or other benevolent activities that directly assist the DAV in attaining its goals. Shortly after establishing this new award, Congressman G. V. "Sonny" Montgomery, Chairman of the House Veterans Affairs' Committee, consented to the award being named after him. The recipient of that award will be recognized at our National Convention in Anaheim, California.

DOL PROGRAMS

The most active DOL program we are involved with is the Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS).

Other programs include the Veterans' Reemployment Rights (VRR), and the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA). The VETS program has the responsibility of providing grants to states to operate the Local Veterans' Employment Representative (LVER) and Disabled Veterans' Outreach Programs (DVOP).

We have reported to Congress our concerns about the Department of Labor's proposed budget for Fiscal Year 1991, which falls short of funding the required number of LVER and DVOP positions. If additional monies are not added to the FY 1991 budget, we will lose almost 300 LVER and DVOP positions. We cannot afford a reduction considering the number of veterans soon to be discharged and the already less than acceptable level of services being provided.

VETS is also responsible for monitoring certain activities of federal contractors. We will continue to work with the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the DOL to monitor the activities of federal contractors. We will also monitor other programs such as LVER and DVOP.

I represent the DAV on the Secretary of Labor's Committee on Veterans' Employment (SCOVE). Associate National Employment Director Gilmer serves as my alternate. We believe this committee should be restructured so that it truly advises the Secretary of Labor. Currently, only information is exchanged. SCOVE meets four times a year, but generally for only two hours at a time. This is insufficient to adequately advise the Secretary on veterans' employment and training issues.

The National Veterans' Training Institute (NVTI) has proven to be extremely successful. Supervisory National Service Officer Jerry Steelman of our Denver, Colorado, office, developed a VA benefits training module for LVERs and DVOPs and others who attend NVTI.

The Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) has the major enforcement responsibility for Section 2012, Title 38, U.S. Code. This requires certain federal contractors to take affirmative action to employ and advance qualified disabled and Vietnam era veterans. But OFCCP's efforts have been virtually negligible since 1975. Oversight hearings on OFCCP are expected before the end of the year.

The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) has the overall responsibility for Department of Labor employment and training programs. On occasion, however, the administration of various programs between ETA and VETS has overlapped. The Assistant Secretary for VETS has responsibility for the administration of all Veterans' Employment and Training Programs. He also has budgeting authority and responsibility for DVOPs and LVERs. The Assistant Secretary for ETA is responsible for the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA). Part of that (Title IVc) is a "set aside" program for veterans.

A proposal to allow LVERs and DVOPs to provide assistance to veterans in the unemployment insurance program is being considered. We have grave reservations about the potential impact of the ongoing service delivery system, which has been less than successful. Statistical evidence shows fewer veterans are being served. This trend will likely continue based on the FY 1991 budget request.

There has also been some discussion about major changes to the employment service system. We have met with Assistant Secretaries of Labor for Veterans' Employment and Training and the Employment and Training Administration to discuss these issues. We have been assured that any future discussions will include DAV input.

The Department of Labor provides partial funding for a weekly, independently produced television program entitled "For Veterans Only." I participated in a round-table discussion on employment and training during a "For Veterans Only" program with DOL Secretary Collins.

DOL sponsors an annual "Salute to Veterans" on Veterans Day. We have actively participated in this salute the last several years. Also, we have discussed with Assistant Secretary Collins a major role for our National Commander at the "Salute" in November 1990.

The Assistant Secretary for VETS initiated a special employment initiative for homeless veterans. Many of our National Service Officers work closely with local DOL officials to provide benefits counseling and claims filing for many of these disabled homeless veterans.

OPM PROGRAMS

The Office of Personnel Management is responsible for enforcing the veterans' preference provisions of Title 5, U.S. Code. It is also responsible for the affirmative action requirements mandated by Section 2014, Title 38, U.S. Code, and the Veterans' Readjustment Appointment authority.

OPM has delegated most hiring authorities to federal agencies. Each federal agency hiring site has the flexibility and ability to circumvent, intentionally or unintentionally, veterans' preference.

We have been working closely with OPM staff and the Director, and meet at least quarterly. Consequently, OPM continues to issue directives and memoranda to federal agencies reminding them of their obligations. This, however, has not been enough.

We discuss the Disabled Veterans Affirmative Action Program (DVAAP) at every quarterly meeting. We are still looking for recommendations from OPM to improve this program.

In last year's report, we advised you about two combat disabled veterans who filed a grievance against their agency because they were denied promotions. The case, which has far-reaching implications, is pending before the Federal Labor Relations Authority. Disabled veterans who work or who might work for the federal government may be affected by the final decision.

This case will set a precedent because the legislation has never been interpreted by an administrative body or the courts. If disabled veterans prevail, every federal agency must apply affirmative action in considering disabled veterans for promotions. If the ruling favors the agency, we will know exactly what legal deficiencies are in the law and will seek legislative remedies.

Regrettably, there is no redress available to veterans under the current statute. If the case is decided favorably, a redress process will be available. Also, there are no penalties or other sanctions available to require an agency to have an effective and acceptable affirmative action program. Whatever the outcome, it will result in positive action for disabled veterans.

We receive inquiries from disabled veterans who are seeking federal employment. Many inquire about employment opportunities, veterans' preference, the VRA, and the 30 percent noncompetitive appointment authority. They also want to know their rights and remedies.

We respond by providing technical information and referring the veterans to the appropriate National Service Officer. We also answer inquiries regarding dual compensation, retirement and health issues, federal employees' compensation for work-related injuries, transfers and promotions.

OPM has recently reinstituted a "testing" system that conforms to an earlier court decision that determined the former OPM testing system was biased against certain minorities. The new test will be reviewed over the next couple of, years to determine if biases have been removed. Veterans preference will he more meaningful because test scores will be assigned points and the traditional five and ten point veterans' preference can again be added.

For the past three years, we have worked with OPM and other federal agencies in developing a disabled veteran workshop to be conducted during a national symposium on employment opportunities for disabled people.

We continue to work closely with OPM on its annual awards program to recognize outstanding disabled federal employees. Many of these honorees are disabled veterans.

As a result of the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978, which allows federal departments to conduct demonstration projects on alternative hiring methods, the Department of Agriculture has developed a new hiring process outside of the normal OPM system. We have been assured by both OPM and the Department of Agriculture this new system will not adversely affect veterans' preference. Department of Agriculture and OPM officials say the new process may actually increase employment opportunities for veterans. This issue has also been discussed at quarterly briefings.

We are working with the House Veterans Affairs' Committee, GAO, and OPM to determine if veterans' preference is actually being applied. Following a DAV request, GAO is planning on reviewing issues to include veterans' preference. We also participated in an OPM public service recognition week, which recognized the contributions and efforts made by federal employees.

VA—PROGRAMS

I am involved in two major Department of Veterans Affairs activities—the agency's personnel policies as they relate to employment of disabled veterans and the Vocational Rehabilitation Program. Secretary Edward Derwinski has recently reappointed me Chairman of the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Rehabilitation, which was established by law in 1980 to advise the Secretary on issues affecting the VA's rehabilitation programs.

We were also approached by the VA to determine if we would oppose an effort to extend its outreach program to all veteran-owned businesses. Currently, the VA is encouraging Vietnam era and disabled veteran-owned businesses to apply for contracts through the VA procurement system. Because veteran-owned businesses are not entitled by law to any special priority or preference, VA is attempting to encourage vet businesses to apply through the competitive process.

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE PROGRAMS

We continue to enjoy a much better relationship with the Postal Service. But, we still receive complaints from our National Service Officers, disabled veterans and others.

Some of the complaints reflect continuing discrimination. Others involve lack of knowledge on the part of many hiring officials. We try to resolve these complaints informally. Many times we are successful. Other times we advise the veteran to file an EEOC complaint and to consult a National Service Officer. We have provided our National Service Officers with a copy of the Postal Service's Disabled Veterans Affirmative Action Plan. We are reviewing additional resource material for their use.

We inform these veterans of other protections under the Civil Rights Act and through the negotiated Grievance Arbitration Procedure with the postal unions. DAV's ability to provide representation is restricted to disability discrimination issues. Most other employment and personnel matters must, by virtue of the Union/Postal Service negotiated contract, be represented by the unions.

The contractural agreement between the U.S. Postal Service and the recognized unions expires this year. The American Postal Workers' Union (APWU) requested that we provide it with information and language it can incorporate into the new contract, which would provide additional protection for disabled veteran applicants and employees.

SBA PROGRAMS

We do not receive a large number of inquiries regarding the Small Business Administration, but we do respond to them. Associate National Employment Director Gilmer serves on the SBA's Veterans Advisory Committee.

Disabled veterans have few "rights" with SBA programs, but when disabled veterans contact us, we work through SBA's network of Regional Veterans' Affairs Officers and other local SBA offices.

The President's Committee on Employment of Peoplewith Disabilities

There have only been three chairmen, all disabled veterans, since The President's Committee was founded in 1947. We attempted to have a severely disabled veteran appointed as the successor to Harold Russell, who recently retired. But we were not successful. President Bush appointed Justin Dart as the new Chairman. We are now attempting to have a severely disabled veteran appointed as one of the Vice Chairmen.

We continue to work very closely with Chairman Justin Dart and Executive Director Jay Rochlin, and several members of their staff. On an ongoing basis, I serve on the Executive Committee, the Committee on Disabled Veterans, and chair the Awards Committee. I served on the planning Committee for this year's annual meeting.

We work very closely with the Committee on its National Journalism Contest. We will request your support and cooperation in administering this program. All of these functions keep DAV very visible in the minds of The President's Committee's staff, employers associated with The President's Committee, and other federal agencies and organizations representing disabled people.

Jay Rochlin recently announced he will retire later this year. Chairman Dart has requested that I serve on a "search committee" along with several other leaders in the disability community to find the best qualified replacement for Mr. Rochlin.

I chaired the task force on Awards and Contests, which recommended that a new task force be convened in 1990. Subsequently, Chairman Dart asked me to Chair a new Task Force on Awards and Contests. The top priority will be to find a new sponsor to work with The President's Committee and the DAV in cosponsoring the National Journalism Contest.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS

Last summer, we were contacted by the Department of Transportation (DOT) regarding its efforts to issue regulations for a national uniform system of handicapped parking. I represented the DAV on this committee and helped write these regulations. That process has taken almost a year. The Department of Transportation is expected to issue final regulations soon.

JOB ACCOMMODATION NETWORK OF AMERICA PROGRAMS

I continue to serve on the Board of Directors of the Job Accommodation Network of America (JANA), a nonprofit organization designed to seek out private support and funding to maintain the Job Accommodation Network (JAN). JAN provides technical information and assistance to employers and others seeking to identify assistive devices or other means by which they may facilitate the employment of disabled people. Past National Commander Chad Colley is Chairman of JANA.

ARCHITECTURAL AND TRANSPORTATION BARRIERS COMPLIANCE BOARD PROGRAMS

We continue to work closely with and monitor the activities of the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board. This Board was established by Congress to set standards and ensure that buildings owned or leased by the federal government are accessible to and usable by handicapped individuals. We are reviewing the makeup of the Board and may recommend changes.

EEOC PROGRAMS

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission has the final authority on disability employment discrimination cases filed against federal departments and agencies. We work closely with EEOC staff regarding veterans' complaints. Under current legislation, disabled veterans as a class do not have a right to file a complaint. If a disabled veteran believes he has been discriminated against, he may file a complaint under legislation protecting disabled people. We have identified areas in that legislation that need correction. We will be working with the staffs of the House and Senate Veterans Affairs' Committees to obtain legislative remedies.

EEOC and the Department of Education cochair the Interagency Committee on Handicapped Employees (ICHE). The ICHE is required to meet at least semi-annually. Since its inception in 1973, however, ICHE has met in a public setting only twice. We will continue to monitor EEOC and ICHE activities as they relate to disabled veterans.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

We monitor the aforementioned agencies' activities and programs, the Congressional Record, Federal Register and a myriad of other publications to keep abreast of changing laws, regulations and policies regarding disabled veterans. When appropriate, we respond to proposed regulations when it has a potential impact on veterans employment and training programs.

When significant legislative, regulatory or policy changes are announced by these agencies, we notify our National Service Officers. The *DAV Magazine* reports on activities of the Employment Department. Also, the Employment Bulletin reports general information designed to provide assistance to NSOs, Chapters and Departments who work on legislation at the local level.

NONGOVERNMENT PROGRAMS

We have been involved with numerous nongovernment entities that are interested in employment and training programs. These include: Projects with Industry; Interstate Conference of Employment Security Agencies (ICESA); International Association of Personnel in Employment Security (IAPES); National Organization on Disability (NOD); National Rehabilitation Association (NRA); National Governor's Association (NGA); the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM), (formerly the American Society of Personnel Administration (ASPA)).

We work particularly close with ICESA and IAPES at the national level to ensure that disabled veterans are considered in their administrative and legislative proposals.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, I would like to express my deepest appreciation to National Commander Vernon V. Cardosi and his line officers for their support and cooperation. At the conclusion of last year's convention, National Commander Cardosi appointed Charles E. "Butch" Joeckel, Jr. as National Adjutant. I want to publicly acknowledge the support and encouragement I have received from Mr. Joeckel on the employment programs. That help is accepted with the sincerest of gratitude.

Jesse Brown is the Executive Director of the Washington Headquarters. He is available to me on a regular basis and counsels with me on matters affecting the direction of the National Employment Department. Jesse's help and guidance have been invaluable.

The duties and responsibilities of the office of National Employment Director could never be carried out if it were not for the direct support and help received on a daily basis from Associate National Employment Director Gilmer. Many of you have worked with Len over the years and are aware of his expertise as a staff person and an asset to our organization.

Prior to Mr. Gilmer being appointed as Associate National Employment Director, that position was held by Michael G. Bargmann, who has assumed the duties of Associate National Director of Communications. Mike worked with me for several years and was an extremely competent Associate Director. It was with mixed feelings that I watched his transition from the Employment Department to the Communications Department. He continues to do a fine job in that area.

ANNUAL REPORT OF CHARLES D. LUTTJOHANN

National Commander Cardosi, distinguished guests and delegates to this National Convention:

This year, the Disabled American Veterans soared past a crucial milestone in our ambitious, continuing drive to boost our life membership ranks beyond one million. Reaching 900,000 million life members in May, we closed the 1989-90 membership year on June 30 with 907,567 in the life membership column. One point makes this achievement really special: four out of every five DAV members has now made a lifetime commitment to our organization. That's right, 80 percent of today's DAV is made up of life members.

The year was a success on other fronts as well. Our year-end membership came to an all-time high of 1,146,631 when the books were finally closed. As we recognize our own organization's achievement, we must also note the crusade that's carrying the DAV Auxiliary ever closer to a guarter of a million members.

With such achievements as a backdrop, I'm more than pleased to present the National Membership Department's annual report to the delegates at the DAV's 69th National Convention.

Membership is the lifeblood of our organization. It touches everything we do. . . and how we do it. The DAV's renowned effectiveness is driven by our membership strength. Our ability to generate change, securing better lives for America's disabled veterans, results directly from the size and commitment of our membership.

The DAV's voice is really the combined voice of our 1.1 million individual members. Those members determine the power and credibility of our message. Without membership growth, our voice is muted. Without membership commitment through such activities as our life membership program—our voice could be silenced. I'm proud to report the DAV's voice—in our individual communities and across America—is stronger than ever. But, before detailing our membership successes, let's take a moment to thank those who made them possible.

National Commander Vernon V. Cardosi, through his unflagging enthusiasm, helped us find the energy to sign up that one additional member, that single new DAVer. We also drew strength from our National Adjutant, Charles E. Joeckel, Jr., who demanded nothing less than excellence from all of us as we sought that single new member. Recruiting those new members, just one at a time, has built the strength of the DAV to its present level. And the leadership behind that success has come from Commander Cardosi and Adjutant Joeckel. Under that leadership, the national staffs in both Washington and Cincinnati have worked long and hard to make our membership year a success. They deserve our gratitude and continued support.

Our membership efforts this year have been marked by the strengthening of our rewarding partnership with the DAV Auxiliary. Together, we are moving forward to ensure that all disabled veterans and their families reap the benefits of DAV and Auxiliary membership. That partnership was forged through the commitment of Auxiliary National Commander Shelia Allred, Auxiliary National Adjutant Maria Tedrow, and the Auxiliary's dedicated staff. As noted earlier, the Auxiliary has attained its own stunning membership successes this year. And it's a thrill to watch those wonderful women as they march confidently toward a new dimension of membership strength.

RECRUITERS

The 1989-90 membership year saw real growth in our membership recruitment activities—growth in involvement and in enthusiasm. Our recruiters are totally committed to our organization. They'll do everything possible to ensure our future as a service organization. And, with its recruiter incentive program, the DAV's National Organization demonstrated an egual commitment to our individual recruiters.

Back in July 1987, when the incentive program was first introduced, who could have foreseen the success it would achieve by the time it wound down to a close on June 30, 1990? Those successes were incredible. When the final report was printed, it showed that 20,764 recruiters had participated in the program and recruited the following:

	DAV	DAV Auxiliary
Annual	67,042	16,292
Part-Life	85,445	5,076
Full-Life	18,564	2,496
Total	171,051	23,864

In recognition of their efforts and accomplishments, these recruiters were awarded a total of 7,661,140 incentive points. They have 90 days from June 30, 1990, in which to redeem any points they have not yet used. Steps have been taken to advise them of their accumulated points and the items available for redemption. At the present time, a new program is being designed to continue to encourage recruiting activity.

While we are deeply indebted to all recruiters, including our National Service Officers and Hospital Service Coordinators, the accomplishments of one individual deserve special recognition. At the 1989 National Convention in Las Vegas, Delbert Nelson did it again for the second year in a row, winning honors as the DAV's national Top Life Recruiter and Top Overall Recruiter. And this was the third year in a row that Delbert was the Top Life Recruiter. At that time, Delbert made a promise to National Adjutant Butch Joeckel that he would be the recipient of these awards again at the 1990 Convention.

Delbert's a man who won't be stopped. . . a regular membership Superman. He handily accomplished what he set out to do, signing up at least 600 life members. And he kept his promise to win both our Top Life Recruiter Award and our Top Recruiter Award. His year-end totals were incredible—602 members, of whom 601 made a life commitment to the DAV!

GOALS

Nationally, the DAV ended its 1989-90 membership year in record form. As of June 30, our ranks totalled 1,146,631 members. That's 26,618 *over* goal and 34,107 *more* members than last year. We saw 44 Departments and 1,794 Chapters reach their assigned goal before year's end. With your continued help, we will reach our new goal for the 1990-91 year, setting yet another membership record. A special thanks for your support and cooperation.

* * * * *

As you can see, the membership year, which concluded June 30, 1990, was one marked by achievement. It was also marked by those who most deserve our gratitude, respect and continued support—you, the individual DAV and Auxiliary member. You've given of your time and energies to help the DAV grow and prosper through your individual, untiring, membership recruitment efforts.

Ultimately, the burden of success or failure of our membership activities falls to each and every member. I'm pleased to report that DAV members have performed well in their recruiting efforts this past year and continued our outstanding tradition of service to this nation's disabled veterans and their families.

This concludes the report of the National Membership Department to the 69th National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans.

ANNUAL REPORT BRUCE G. NITSCHE, NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF VOLUNTARY SERVICES

National Commander Cardosi, national officers, distinguished guests and delegates to the 69th National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans.

It is my pleasure to present to you the annual report of DAV Voluntary Services.

Disabled veterans helping disabled veterans is what DAV Volunteer Services is all about. The rewards Of serving others may be feeding and bathing patients in a VA nursing home, working in a VA medical laboratory, transporting sick disabled veterans to VA health-care facilities, or maybe taking a lonely veteran to a ballgame or fishing. Maybe it's just holding a veteran's hand to let him or her know they are not alone, whatever the need may be, DAV volunteers are there to help.

DAV and DAV Auxiliary volunteers—particularly those in VA hospitals—can usually be expected to work long hours, performing tasks that earn little thanks and certainly no money. The volunteer's currency is the gratitude of a patient resting more comfortably, the smile of an exhausted nurse who accepts their offer of help. Why do the volunteers do it? Where does this thought of serving others spring from?

It's interesting to recall the observation of 19th century French social critic Alexis de Tocqueville. He came to America to study this new government called democracy. In his book, *Democracy in America*, he states "When men feel a natural compassion for the sufferings of others, when they are brought together in easy and frequent intercourse and no susceptibilities keep them apart, it is easy to understand that they will give each other mutual support when needed. When an American needs the assistance of his fellows, it is very rare for that to be refused, and I have often seen it given spontaneously and eagerly." He goes on to explain his theory of volunteers, for De Tocqueville, it is a uniquely American phenomenon, a direct product of democracy in America.

While we may never have thought of volunteerism as a uniquely American trait, De Tocqueville's point is well made. In the process of DAV and Auxiliary members volunteering to help others, we are acting as better Americans, more attuned to the benefits and responsibilities of living in a Democracy.

VA hospitals have never needed volunteers more than they do today. Today, the availability of quality health care—which is often not available because of budget cuts and staff and service reductions—is often left up to the volunteer.

If you are not a DAV or DAVA volunteer today, we need you as never before. Join our volunteer ranks and do what Americans do best—volunteering their time and talents in service to others. Let's make certain that all disabled veterans are able to get to the medical care they need and that they receive quality care when they get there.

This report provides the figures on money spent, hours volunteered and the number of volunteers involved in DAV volunteer programs. But it can never represent the leadership and unselfish assistance given by our State VAVS Chairmen, Hospital Representatives, Deputies and all our volunteers in their everyday volunteer activities. We can't really put a number on the special rewards of providing transportation for medical treatment, direct patient care, entertainment, recreational and sporting activities, and assistance and friendship for the older veteran. The statistics in this report are the measurable result of DAV members, DAV families and DAV friends accomplishing the purpose of our organization. The most valuable but immeasurable result is in their hearts and the hearts of those they serve.

The DAV Transportation Network and the established VAVS program have continued their ongoing growth over the past year. Now in its third year of operation, the DAV Transportation Network has become a dependable source of transportation to medical care for hundreds of thousands of veterans. The DAV Transportation Network now has 170 Hospital Service Coordinators who have recruited over 3,300 volunteer drivers. Last year, these dedicated drivers drove over 9,000,000 miles transporting more than 185,000 veterans to VA medical facilities. If it wasn't for the DAV Transportation Network, these veterans would not have received the medical care they needed and earned through their service to our country. As volunteers and members, we can feel especially proud of the DAV's actions and not simply its words when VA beneficiary travel was curtailed. DAV departments and chapters, together with the national organization will have donated 176 vans to medical centers nationwide by the end of the year. In addition, DAV HSCs completed over 75,000 VA claim forms and referred nearly 30,000 veterans to DAV National Service Officers for benefits assistance. DAV HSCs and DAV VAVS representatives form an unbeatable team to serve the disabled veteran and have added hundreds of new volunteers to our voluntary service programs. These additional volunteers, who have joined with the thousands of other DAV volunteer care givers, are selfless in sharing their talents with veterans in need.

Since April 1, 1989, the number of DAV VAVS volunteers grew by 647, an 8 percent increase. Furthermore, DAV VAVS volunteers donated 189,934 more hours than the previous year. DAV and DAV Auxiliary VAVS volunteers provided a record 2,169,550 hours of service in VAMCs. This is equivalent to the VA having an additional 1,100 employees with an estimated $22,000,000 value in hourly wages alone.

In addition to the past year's volunteer statistics, this annual report will provide a brief overview of some of our major volunteer programs and special projects.

GEORGE H. SEAL MEMORIAL AWARD

The George H. Seal Memorial Award was established in 1978 to recognize a DAV and DAV Auxiliary VAVS Volunteer whose service to hospitalized veterans most closely reflects the dedicated qualities shown for so many years by the late George H. Seal.

During the 13 years since its inception, the George H. Seal Award has become one of the most prominent honors presented by the DAV National Commander at the organization's annual National Convention. Nominations submitted from VA Medical Centers throughout the nation are thoroughly evaluated by an independent selection committee composed of well known authorities in the field of voluntary service. The two George H. Seal Memorial Award recipients selected by the committee receive an expense-paid trip to the DAV National Convention for the presentation ceremonies.

This year, the committee reviewed 170 nominations representing 102 DAV volunteers and 68 DAV Auxiliary volunteers—before naming the winners: Spencer B. Jackson of the Baltimore, MD, VAMC and Lillian M. Golino of the Martinez, CA, VAMC. All other nominees will receive special certificates of merit for their outstanding volunteer performance in meeting the needs of hospitalized veterans.

THE DAV VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

The need to communicate on a regular basis with DAV and DAV Auxiliary VAVS volunteers is being met through the DAV Volunteer newsletter. This publication is distributed periodically to all registered DAV/DAV Auxiliary volunteers, Hospital Service Coordinators, as well as to the organization's 68 National Service Offices and all DAV Chapters and DAV Auxiliary Units. More than 15,000 copies of each issue are distributed nationwide.

Now in its second year of publication, the DAV Volunteer newsletter features information on successful volunteer programs and outstanding volunteers as a means of encouraging similar DAV/DAVA efforts at other VA Medical Centers. In addition, the publication carries newsworthy items and announcements about recognition programs, volunteer T-shirts and mileage pins. Volunteers are encouraged to share information about their successful programs and ideas through the DAV Volunteer newsletter, which has been enthusiastically endorsed by readers from coast to coast. The high journalistic standards of the publication are the work of DAV Magazine Editor Frank Norberg, who works diligently to meet the information needs of our nationwide network of VAVS volunteers.

SPORTS FOR THE DISABLED

The past decade has seen the DAV move to the forefront as a strong advocate and financial supporter of athletic programs designed for disabled veterans of all ages. In cooperation with the VA, the DAV allows disabled veterans to participate in sports which they thought were impossible due to their disabilities. Current programs include:

THE NATIONAL VETERANS GOLDEN AGE GAMES: The last Golden Age Games were held in 1988 at the Marion, Indiana, VAMC under sponsorship of the DAV Charitable Service Trust. More than 200 veterans, all age 55 or over and who were receiving treatment at a VA medical facility, participated in events designed to foster increased mental, social, emotional, and physical qualities of their daily life.

The Games were not staged in 1989, so that the newly organized Department of Veterans Affairs could evaluate its program and develop necessary operational procedures. Program planners decided that the games would be scheduled on an annual basis.

The 1990 National Golden Age Games will be held the week of August 14th at the Bonham VAMC, Sherman, Texas, with the DAV and Department of Veterans Affairs serving as cosponsors. This major undertaking will require approximately 1,000 volunteers to meet the needs of the more than 600 senior athletes expected to compete in the wide range of events.

SKIING FOR THE DISABLED: The DAV has been promoting skiing for disabled veterans for more than 10 years. The organization continued its support this past winter by sponsoring three major events:

The National Veterans Winter Sports Clinic: With the DAV as a cosponsor, the VA hosted its Fourth National Veterans Winter Sports Clinic once again at Grand Junction, Colorado. Participating in the six-day series of events were 135 patients from VA medical facilities in 23 states. While skiing at nearby Powderhorn was the main attraction, other sports, such as scuba diving, trap shooting, self-defense and indoor golf, also attracted disabled veterans. Disabilities included spinal cord injuries, visual impairments, crippling neurological conditions and orthopedic amputations. More than 200 dedicated volunteers successfully staged the events. The DAV's sponsorship received prominent nationwide television coverage (155 PBS stations) through For Veterans Only, which devoted its entire half-hour program the following week to the Grand Junction events.

The Chapstick Disabled Ski Challenge: More than 600 disabled skiers of all ages, including many veterans, participated in the 1989 Chapstick Disabled Ski Challenge at Breckenridge, Colorado. The event was staged under the auspices of National Handicapped Sports, and the DAV was a major sponsor. It is the nation's largest winter sports event for physically disabled participants. Again, the DAV received excellent television coverage on **For Veterans Only.**

National Disabled Ski Championship: 1990 marked the 10th year the DAV has played a prominent role at the National Disabled Ski Championships. The DAV presented its National Commander's Trophy to the disabled veteran who turned in the best combined performance for the three championship events. Second and third place medals were also awarded. Participation in the National Disabled Ski Championships is limited only to the country's ranking disabled skiers, all of whom are selected on the basis of their performance at regional qualification races. Approximately 20 disabled veterans competed in the 1990 national championships, the largest number in several years. A **For Veterans Only** film crew was on hand to document the events, including the presentation of the DAV National Commander's Trophy.

GOLF FOR THE DISABLED: The DAV has not confined its sponsorship of athletic events to winter sports. As a means of promoting rehabilitation and a more active lifestyle for disabled veterans, the DAV also supports two major golf programs for the disabled:

National Amputee Golf Open Championships: Four years ago, the DAV established the National Commander's trophy for the disabled veteran who has the best overall performance at the National Amputee Golf Association (NAGA) Championships. Of the 137 entrants in last year's championship, 80 were disabled veterans.

First Swing Golf: This is the second year of DAV's involvement with this instructional golf program for the physically disabled. Through a grant by the DAV Charitable Service Trust, the First Swing Program has now been expanded from 8 seminar/clinics to 14 this year. Through this program, PGA and NAGA instructors conduct training seminars for VAMC therapists in the basic fundamentals of golf. Also, a hands-on clinic for both the therapist and the disabled participant is conducted. Therapists then continue this program for patients in their respective medical facilities.

DAV CELEBRITY ENTERTAIN PROGRAM

The DAV Celebrity Entertainment Program continues to get better and better each year. This program lifts the spirits of hospitalized veterans across the country and improves their quality of life.

We are extremely fortunate to sponsor visits to VAMCs by some very compassionate people who have very special talents. These people are Kevin Dobson, star of "Knots Landing," Major League Baseball Umpires Larry Barnett and Eddie Montague, and country western singer Carole Steele. These individuals have made more than 150 hospital visits in the past year alone.

The new additions to our Celebrity Entertainment Program are country singer, composer and entertainer Lee Greenwood and Emmy nominee and Golden Globe winner Ann Jillian.

The DAV is honored that these individuals have chosen to be a part of the DAV Voluntary Service Program by giving their valuable time to veterans. They have demonstrated that they care very deeply about not only the hospitalized veteran, but all veterans who have served our country.

Once again, we are pleased that many new volunteers have joined the rolls of the DAV and DAV Auxiliary volunteer corps during the past years. These new volunteers have jumped right in and added new ideas and strengths to an already active and vital volunteer team. The veteran who is "in need" can be comforted in knowing DAV and DAV Auxiliary volunteers are eager and ready to meet any future challenges.

This year of growth and success would not be possible without the support of many people who should be recognized. First, I want to thank National Commander Vernon Cardosi for his strong support of all DAV volunteers and his commitment to them during the past year in his travels as National Commander.

The growth in our volunteer programs would not have been possible without the support of National Adjutant Charles "Butch" Joeckel. Butch has steadfastly encouraged our volunteer programs and ranked volunteerism as one of DAV's top priorities.

The staff at our National Service & Legislative Headquarters in Washington, DC,—under the direction of Executive Director Jesse Brown—has worked diligently to see that Capitol Hill understands and appreciates the important role our volunteers play.

At the same time, I would be remiss if I didn't mention the administrative support of our staff at Cincinnati Headquarters under the leadership of Steve Edmiston.

A round of applause goes to our partner in volunteerism, the DAV Auxiliary. Under the leadership of DAV Auxiliary National Commander Shelia Allred and National Adjutant Maria Tedrow, Auxiliary volunteers eagerly tackle whatever job is asked of them.

The officers and directors of the DAV Charitable Service Trust (CST) are to be commended for their continued support of the medical centers' Homeless and Chronically Mentally Ill (HCMI) programs, DAV Transportation Network, DAV sports and rehabilitation programs and the many other worthy programs they support. DAV volunteers are proud to recognize the DAV CST as a partner in our efforts to improve the quality of life for disabled veterans and their dependents.

The DAV HSCs are worthy of special recognition for their relentless efforts to make certain every veteran who needs transportation to a medical care facility receives it. Thanks also to the National Service Officers for their continued training of HSCs.

On behalf of all DAV volunteers, a special salute goes to Ed Rose, Director of VA Voluntary Service, for his heartfelt concern for all volunteers.

A special note of thanks to Dick Wilson who has championed the importance of sports and physical fitness for the disabled veteran. His help with DAV-sponsored sporting activities and volunteer programs is invaluable.

Of course the most important thank you goes to the tens of thousands of DAV and DAV Auxiliary volunteers. Last year, the volunteers of the DAV and DAV Auxiliary provided more volunteer hours in VA medical facilities than any other organization. More importantly, they provided hope and compassion to those who needed it most without asking anything in return. I am proud and grateful to be fortunate enough to work with these people and be a part of this legacy of the DAV.

VA Voluntary Service (VAVS)

[April 1, 1989 thru March 31, 1990]

Number of regularly scheduled VAVS volunteers	8,091
Number of hours by regularly scheduled volunteers	1,659,822
Number of assignments by regularly scheduled volunteers	9,675
Number of visits by regularly scheduled volunteers	295,902
Number of hours by occasional volunteers	54,318
Number of visits by occasional volunteers	14,045
Number of hours by all VAVS volunteers	1,714,140
Number of visits by all VAVS volunteers	309,947

VAVS Appointed Positions

Number of state chairmen	17
Number of state chairmen also serving as representatives	20
Number of representatives	171
Number of deputy representatives	339
Number of associate representatives	35
Number of deputy associate representatives	5
Number of honorary representatives	5
Number of appointed positions	592
Annual joint reviews received for the year	126

Donations

VAVS donations (January 1, 1989 thru December 31, 1990)	$1,972,038.00
Other hospital and service related donations (This includes Dept. & Chapter costs associated with welfare & relief, as well as HSC & DSO programs)	6,417,511.00
Total donations	8,389,549.00

Older Veterans Assistance Program (OVAP)

Number of OVAP volunteers	4,731
Number of chapter OVAP teams	756
Number of requests for service forms	646
Number of OVAP grants issued to date	191
Amount of OVAP grants issued to date	$183,636.56

TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

JANUARY 1, 1989 THRU APRIL 30, 1990

These DAV Transportation Statistics reflect the data gathered from January 1, 1989, thru April 30, 1990.

Monthly DAV Transportation Network

[veterans transported by month]

	1989	1990
January	13,699	19,740
February	12,335	18,618
March	14,129	21,505
April	13,164	20,890
May	15,519	
June	15,669	
July	15,068	
August	16,505	
September	16,573	
October	17,699	
November	17,427	
December	15,685	

Transportation Totals

	1/01/89-12/31/89	1/01/90-4/30/90	1/01/89-4/30/90
Total number of Hospital Service Coordinators (HSC)	170		
Number of veterans transported	183,472	80,753	264,225
Transportation hours	465,832	187,009	652,841
Transportation miles	9,309,077	3,695,769	13,004,846
HSC personal interviews	177,039		
HSC telephone interviews	176,237		
HSC NSO referrals	28,890		
HSC VA forms completed	75,227		

1989–90 National Transportation Network Grants

	Jan 89–Dec 89	Jan 90–Apr 90
National Transportation Network Grants (not including vans)	$968,117.37	$229,533.00
National Transportation Network Van Grants (44 vans purchased & delivered 1989—Natl. Cost $319,549.27; Dept. Cost $317,039.89)	319,549.27	
1989 Total National Grant Expenditures (including vans)	1,287,666.64	
1989–90 Total National Grant Expenditures (January 1989 thru April 1990)	1,517,199.64	

Commander Cardosi. I'd now like to introduce a gentleman who has a very fine employer, Warren Hutchings of Coors Brewing Division, for a presentation. [Applause.]

Mr. Warren Hutchings. Thank you very much, National Commander, national officers, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, and fellow veterans. Vern, I would like to take you back a few years when you were a very young man, if I may. I'd like to present you the Coors Golden Dog Tag Award. We have duplicated these dog tags that you wore for some time, and I'd like to read this to you, if I may:

> A salute to Vernon V. Cardosi, national commander, Disabled American Veterans from the employees of the Coors Brewing Company, Golden, Colorado, July 31, 1990.

And now I'd like to read to you the dog tags, if you can remember these. It says, "Vernon V. Cardosi, 51154711, 11-23"—shall I tell them this?—"30, Catholic, Blood Type O."

Vernon, I'd like to present this to you from the Coors Brewing Company. [Applause.]

I can't tell you where I got the information. It's from your staff. [Laughter.]

Commander **Cardosi**. Thank you so very much, I appreciate it. And also thank you for all those pictures we took in New York. I appreciate that very much. He's a wonderful man.

Now I would like to entertain a motion that the lists of delegates and alternates selected by the 21 national districts and the Blind Veterans Chapter to serve on convention committees be admitted into the record of the proceedings of this convention. I will entertain a motion.

Mr. **Tomasin**. Comrade Commander, Microphone Number 1. John Tomasin, Chapter Number 49; New Jersey, so moves you.

Commander **Cardosi**. Do we have a second?

Mr. **McCartin**. Mr. Chairman, Bill McCartin, Baltimore Chapter Number 1, Department of Maryland, seconds the motion.

Commander **Cardosi**. It's been moved and seconded. Is there any discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor, signify by saying Aye; opposed. So ordered. Thank you very much.

[Whereupon, the following are the DAV National Convention Committees:]

Committee on Nomination of National Officers: District 1, Thomas J. Daley, #27, Massachusetts; alternate, Joseph R. Howell, #10, Massachusetts. District 2, Nicholas Cachianes, #76, New York; alternate, Julius Wagman, #76, New York. District 3, Byron C. Adams, Jr., #11, Maine; alternate, Louis P. Ochmanski, #1, Maine.

District 4, Anthony Barile, #73, New Jersey; alternate, Sal Uccello, #47, Connecticut. District 5, Joseph J. Maldet, #50, Pennsylvania; alternate, William R. Miller, Sr., #50, Pennsylvania. District 6, John T. Johnson, #1, Washington, D. C., alternate, Edwin A. Hornby, #3, Virginia.

District 7, Albert H. Linden, Jr., #90, Florida; alternate, Bill Fabregas, #101, Florida. District 8, Frank Skerlick, #9, Alabama; alternate, Ellis Edwards, #30, Louisiana. District 9, Emmett W. Gore, Jr., #9, Georgia; alternate, Billy H. Braswell, #33, Georgia.

District 10, Leo J. LeRoux, #7, Michigan; alternate, Frank Krolczyk, #129, Michigan. District 11, Robert L. O'Dell, #50, Ohio; alternate, Howard Kabler, #90, Ohio. District 12, Bernie Sarchi, #36, Illinois; alternate, Frank Rogala, #5, Wisconsin.

District 13, Glen Vogel, #95, Indiana; alternate, Wallace Hawkins, #89, Kentucky. District 14, Larry Bouska, #1, South Dakota; alternate, Don Bren, #22, South Dakota. District 15, John K. Benoit, #53, Iowa; Francis E. McLaskey, #10, Iowa.

District 16, Charles J. Framiglio, #11, California; alternate, Kenneth Warr, #6, California. District 17, F. E. Martinez, #6, Utah; alternate, John Wiedeman, #8, Colorado. District 18, Hermon T. Harrison, #8, Arizona; alternate, Mario Cattani, #1, Arizona.

District 19, Gayle Nyberg, #28, Idaho; alternate, Robert W. Johnson, #17, Oregon. District 20, Billy Kirby, #32, Texas; alternate, Jett Jamison, #20, Texas. District 21, Joe T. Steward, #12, Arkansas; alternate, Harry R. Hoots, #54, Oklahoma. Blind Vets Chapter, Joseph Schlichtig and Edmund Fiblich. Advisor, Nicholas G. Cachianes.

Committee on Credentials: District 1, Everett Nygard, #70, Massachusetts; alternate, James Tanner, #62, Massachusetts. District 2, Anthony DiRosa, #78, New York; alternate David Robbin, #154, New York. District 3, Owen L. Boland, #3, Rhode Island; alternate, Jean Nadeau, #4, Maine.

District 4, Albert Fanslau, #70, New Jersey; alternate, Steven Stupak, #9, Connecticut. District 5, Bruce E. Cousins, #27, Pennsylvania; alternate, Andy Aquino, #120, Pennsylvania. District 6, Sloan H. Hoopes, #3, Virginia; alternate, James B. Strawder, #16, Washington, D. C.

District 7, John T. Paul, #93, Florida; alternate, Silva E. Short, #91, Florida. District 8, Hugh Halbrock, #11, Alabama; alternate, Joe Suba, #7, Louisiana. District 9, Earl J. Shanabrook, #22, North Carolina; alternate, Byron F. Murphy, #20, North Carolina.

District 10, Harvey D. Slotman, #14, Michigan; alternate, Lowell McKeehan, #114, Michigan; District 11, Joseph G. Dyson, #109, Ohio; alternate, William L. Mosley, #57, Ohio. District 12, Bob Burton, #34, Wisconsin; alternate, Douglas Collins, #3, Illinois.

District 13, Jess Sullins, #156, Kentucky; alternate, James Powers, #3, Indiana. District 14, Rex Kiser, #1, Minnesota; alternate, Evert E. Bradbury, #22, South Dakota. District 15, Harry D. Sackett, #34, Kansas; alternate, Charles Schlicker, #43, Nebraska.

District 16, Robert Seal, #20, California; alternate Milton W. Farmer, #39, California. District 17, Sid Nason, #26, Colorado; alternate John Hernandez, #33, New Mexico. District 18, Robert Krepsky, #8, Arizona; alternate, Harry Armacost, #20, Arizona.

District 19, Virgil A. Barnett, #22, Idaho; alternate, Shirley A. Jaynes, #5, Washington. District 20, Malcolm Orr, #5, Texas; alternate, Sam Gersch, #57, Texas. District 21, Ralph Johnson, #56, Oklahoma; alternate, Deary Vaughn, #3, Oklahoma. Advisors, Stan Pealer and Charles D. Luttjohann.

Committee on Hospital and Voluntary Services: District 1, Richard Stentiford, #80, Massachusetts; alternate, Charles McLeod, #80, Massachusetts. District 2, Bernard Robidoux, #185, New York; alternate, Howard Hartloff, #177, New York. District 3, Raymond S. Sanchas, #13, Rhode Island; alternate, Russell S. Manchester, Jr., #7, Rhode Island.

District 4, Alfred Faticoni, #8, Connecticut; alternate, William C. Phillips, #9, Delaware. District 5, Terry Chenot, #107, Pennsylvania; alternate, Gary Tomlin, #125, Pennsylvania. District 6, Carl J. Carter, #3, Washington, D. C.; alternate, Allan D. Hunter, #14, Virginia.

District 7, Ernest G. Balcom, #13, Florida; alternate, C. J. Rice, #139, Florida. District 8, Hubert Thomas, #14, Mississippi; alternate, Richard Rainey, #46, Tennessee. District 9, Harold L. Hall, #9, Georgia; alternate, Paul L. Nelson, #1, Georgia.

District 10, John T. Griffin, #12, Michigan; alternate, George Zoscsak, #2, Michigan. District 11, Andrew J. Offutt, #103, Ohio; alternate, Duane M. Wagner, #35, Ohio. District 12, Bert Eslinger, #66, Wisconsin; alternate, Edward Olsen, #33, Illinois.

District 13, Richard G. Patterson, #1, Indiana; alternate, Harry S. Gaylord, #89, Kentucky. District 14, James N. Olson, #10, Minnesota; alternate, Tom Wells, #10, Montana. District 15, Leroy D. Moore, #7, Nebraska; alternate, Donald J. Spitzengel, #1, Kansas.

District 16, Fred J. Iversen, #2, California; alternate, Joel C. Devenish, #43, California. District 17, Robert Jones, #11, New Mexico; alternate, A. L. Poe, #7, Colorado. District 18, Judith H. Worobe, #1, Hawaii; alternate, S. Fay Johnson, #12, Nevada.

District 19, Lloyd LaPlante, #23, Washington; alternate, Mallory Ekwall, #45, Oregon. District 20, James Stewart, #11, Texas; alternate, Charles Altman, #5, Texas. District 21, Jimmy Blackburn, #5, Oklahoma; alternate, Joe C. Mugg, #32, Oklahoma. Blind Vets Chapter, Buddy Spivey. Advisors, Gregory C. Reed and David W. Gorman.

Committee on Legislation and Veterans Rights: District 1, William Young, #21, Massachusetts; alternate, Charles Murray, #72, Massachusetts. District 2, Richard Wannemacher, #10, New York; alternate, Harry Schultz, #8, New York. District 3, Earl V. Lamica, #11, New Hampshire; alternate, Arthur L. Reed, #7, Rhode Island.

District 4, Ken Grunewald, #21, New Jersey; alternate, Justus Kehne, Jr., #8, Delaware. District 5, Michael Mastrean, #8, Pennsylvania; alternate, Richard Williams, #14, Pennsylvania. District 6, Harry W. Bullen, Jr., #28, Maryland; alternate, David L. Tannenbaum, #15, Virginia.

District 7, Paul T. Demos, #72, Florida; alternate, Herman Mehl, #19, Florida. District 8, Hubert Alexander, #70, Tennessee; alternate, Fred Baker, #25, Alabama. District 9, Gordon C. Styberg, #57, South Carolina; alternate, Shelby DiEllis, #57, South Carolina.

District 10, Kenneth G. Nowry, #45, Michigan; alternate, David R. Van Hill, #116, Michigan. District 11, Verne Nygaard, #20, Ohio; alternate, Melvin E. Thomas, #26, Ohio. District 12, Chauncey Dunday, #50, Wisconsin; alternate, Ray Helsley, #3, Illinois.

District 13, Al Riley, #55, Indiana; alternate, Ray Drake, #6, Kentucky. District 14, Thomas J. Eichman, #28, Minnesota; alternate, Hiram Fuller, #10, Minnesota. District 15, Harold Chad Coss, #2, Missouri; alternate, William G. Burton, #17, Missouri.

District 16, Henry A. Veillette, #73, California; alternate, Jeanne Morey, #59, California. District 17, Benito Gonzales, #18, Colorado; alternate, Greg Holland, #33, New Mexico. District 18, William Winters, #8, Hawaii; Mebine Manuel, #5, Hawaii.

District 19, Ed Zollinger, #2, Idaho; alternate, Ronald Sulcer, #2, Washington. District 20, Ed Cooke, #3, Texas; alternate, Linda Kearbey, #11, Texas. District 21, David A. Jeter, #7, Arkansas; alternate, Frances Liotta, #32, Oklahoma. Blind Vets Chapter, Wayne Wimberly. Advisors, Verne M. Nygaard, John F. Heilman and Charles A. Thompson.

Committee on General Resolutions, National Security, Americanism and Membership: District 1, William Green, #25, Massachusetts; alternate, John Regan, #114, Massachusetts. District 2, Donald Sioss, #76, New York; alternate, Al Nowak, #203, New York. District 3, James E. Roy, #15, Vermont; alternate, Leonard Dudley, #6, Rhode Island.

District 4, John Tomasin, #49, New Jersey; alternate, Mario J. Bonola, #8, Connecticut. District 5, Bert O'Neill, Jr., #61, Pennsylvania; alternate, James E. Uckele, #25, Pennsylvania. District 6, Allan L. McCroskey, #14, Virginia; alternate, Herbert L. Belton, #1, Washington, D. C.

District 7, Stephen J. Remsen, #24, Florida; alternate, Saul Gitlin, #13, Florida. District 8, Tillman W. Johnson, #30, Louisiana; alternate, James Phillips, #70, Tennessee. District 9, Raddy G. Hughes, #46, North Carolina; alternate, Marion Shoemake, #10, North Carolina.

District 10, James R. Friesema, #1, Michigan; alternate, John F. McComb, #13, Michigan. District 11, Nick M. Marinelli, #117, Ohio; alternate, Robert E. Leonard, #3, Ohio. District 12, Werner Schalow, #5, Wisconsin; alternate, Louis Winegardner, #18, Illinois.

District 13, Tom Chumley, #156, Kentucky; alternate, Joe Sablic, #1, Indiana. District 14, Victor C. Hass, #4, North Dakota; alternate, Jim Ebele, #1, North Dakota. District 15, Richard A. Noddings, #7, Nebraska; alternate, Isaac H. Jones, Jr., #20, Iowa.

District 16, Charles Demele, #85, California; alternate, Edward A. Fonte, #5, California. District 17, Mickey Shropshire, #22, Colorado; alternate, Cecil Wheeler, #4, Utah. District 18, Vernon Duke, #12, Nevada; alternate, Frank Payne, #7, Nevada.

District 19, Elezer Harris, #25, Oregon; alternate, Jon L. Schumacher, #23, Washington. District 20, John E. Goodman, #26, Texas; alternate, John Driscoll, #73, Texas. District 21, Virgil Ahnberg, #7, Arkansas; alternate, Orvial Mooney, #29, Oklahoma. Advisors, O. J. Brooks and Richard F. Schultz.

Committee on Constitution and Bylaws: District 1, Joseph R. Harold, #10, Massachusetts; alternate, Frank Shumski, #90, Massachusetts. District 2, Edward G. Galian, #76, New York; alternate, Anthony Fusco, #28, New York. District 3, Howard L. Hurd, #11, New Hampshire; alternate, Anthony Foti, #1, New Hampshire.

District 4, William C. Meredith, #1, Delaware; alternate, Dr. William T. Donahue, #15, Connecticut. District 5, Mike Godich, Jr., #52, Pennsylvania; alternate, Budd L. Pedersen, #64, Pennsylvania. District 6, Werren B. Lone, #1, Washington, D. C.; alternate, Warren E. Waters, #26, Virginia.

District 7, John C. McCarthy, #4, Florida; alternate, Jimmy Meeks, #28, Florida. District 8, Lee Richard, #17, Louisiana; alternate, Jim Collins, #38, Tennessee. District 9, Billy J. Nix, #1, Georgia; alternate, E. T. Townsend, #11, North Carolina.

District 10, Russ Spalding, #20, Michigan; alternate, Roger L. Jansen, #14, Michigan. District 11, John Tablac, #2, Ohio; alternate, Paul A. DeMichael, #116, Ohio. District 12, Anthony Martino; alternate, Dot Schilling, #19, Wisconsin.

District 13, Tom Dehne, #116, Kentucky; alternate, Ken Morris, #52, Indiana. District 14, Gene Murphy, #1, South Dakota; alternate, Robert E. Camp, #1, South Dakota. District 15, Robert R. Chapman, #1, Missouri; alternate, Don Gallagher, #47, Nebraska.

District 16, Kenneth Musselmann, #19, California; alternate, Robert Salisbury, #94, California. District 17, Jerry Stephens, #14, Utah; alternate, Everett Bauer, #7, Colorado. District 18, George Egel, #8, Arizona; alternate, John Deremiah, #30, Arizona.

District 19, L. B. McCracken, #13, Washington; alternate, Jack Thompson, #1, Washington. District 20, Richard L. Sarrazin, #5, Texas; alternate, Herbert Lowery, #57, Texas. District 21, Wilbert R. Huber, #5, Oklahoma; alternate, Don Cox, #57, Arkansas. Advisors, Kenneth G. Musselmann and Stephen L. Edmiston.

Committee on Finance and Dues: District 1, Arthur S. Cushing, #17, Massachusetts; alternate, Arthur Kingsley. District 2, Frank Fantanza, #15, New York; alternate, Joseph Zakrzewski, #34, New York. District 3, Edward S. Lastowski, #1, New Hampshire; alternate, Anthony Lauria, #1, New Hampshire.

District 4, Richard J. Hennessey, #12, Connecticut; alternate, Joseph W. Llewellyn, #1, New Jersey. District 5, John W. Peluse, #76, Pennsylvania; alternate, George N. Ofiesh, #53, Pennsylvania. District 6, Bill Wiggins, #19, Virginia; alternate, Arturo Pena-Garcia, #1, Puerto Rico.

District 7, Forrest G. Kidwell, #91, Florida; alternate, Elmer L. West, #91, Florida. District 8, Roy Mitchell, #80, Alabama; alternate, Lloyd E. Helms, #30, Louisiana. District 9, William L. Coward, Sr., #27, Georgia; alternate, James D. Smith, #44, Georgia.

District 10, Richard A. Straub, II, #2, Michigan; alternate, Donald P. Kirkpatrick, #135, Michigan. District 11, Bill James, #6, Ohio; alternate, Joe V. Racco, #35, Ohio. District 12, Dennis Guernsey, #15, Illinois; alternate, Frank Morris, #1, Wisconsin.

District 13, Bob Parkerson, #89, Kentucky; alternate, Fred A. Sutton, #9, Indiana. District 14, Jamie C. Thompson, #3, South Dakota; alternate E. C. Larson, #22, Minnesota. District 15, Timothy M. Scholl, #1, Kansas; alternate, Bernard L. Walkowiak, #62, Missouri.

District 16, Michael W. Tempesta, #1, California; alternate, Flavie Lee, #27, California. District 17, Sabino Garcia, #33, New Mexico; alternate, Ben Maes, #39, Colorado. District 18, Lou Blakely, #1, Arizona; alternate, Don Gentry, #20, Arizona.

District 19, Robert L. Poole, #1, Oregon; alternate, Ronald Ampe, #5, Washington. District 20, Yael Friedlander, #14, Texas; alternate, Raymond Rapisand, #10, Texas. District 21, E. J. Alexander, #60, Oklahoma; alternate, Bob Ellis, #7, Arkansas. Advisors, Donald J. Pouliot and Charles E. Cryder.

Committee on Employment: District 1, Laroy Canady, #16, Massachusetts; alternate, Jerry Gregory, #25, Massachusetts. District 2, Elion D. Miller, #78, New York; alternate, Alvin Burks, #76, New York. District 3, Russell R. Tanguay, #18, New Hampshire; alternate Alfred L. Cordaro, #7, New Hampshire.

District 4, Elwood A. D. Lechausse, #17, Connecticut; alternate, Ernest W. Davis, #13, Delaware. District 5, Howard A. Jeffries, #53, Pennsylvania; alternate, James Feliciano, #50, Pennsylvania. District 6, Maurine L. Hill, #17, Maryland; alternate, Don K. Bates, #2, West Virginia.

District 7, Charles McLeod, #16, Florida; alternate, James W. Hickman, #96, Florida. District 8, D. H. Eunice, #12, Alabama; alternate, Walter Minton, #94, Tennessee. District 9, Jackie D. Hanshew, #1, Georgia; alternate, Ron F. Hope, #46, Georgia.

District 10, John McCollough, #3, Michigan; alternate, Connie McNeal, #1, Michigan. District 11, Thomas M. Disney, #103, Ohio; alternate, Dave Goliver, #19, Ohio. District 12, Robert Donahue, #42, Illinois; alternate, Larry Hauger, #2, Wisconsin.

District 13, Donald D. Peek, Jr., #52, Indiana; alternate, Greg Belak, #52, Kentucky. District 14, Lawrence Walker, #2, Minnesota; alternate, Robert J. Connor, #2, Minnesota. District 15, George T. Nickolas, #2, Iowa; alternate, Leo Picking, #18, Kansas.

District 16, Glen Halsey; alternate Ramiro A. Castillo, #38, California. District 17, Ben Geist, #32, Colorado; alternate, Emil Jaeger, #8, Utah. District 18, James C. Bennett, #1, Nevada; alternate, R. L. Rohr, #11, Nevada.

District 19, Donald Sanders, #23, Washington; alternate, Gary Wood, #38, Oregon. District 20, Bruce Burgess, #128, Texas; alternate, Debra Williams, #66, Texas. District 21, Jimmie S. Foster, #32, Oklahoma; alternate, R. J. Ranks, #7, Oklahoma. Advisors, Chad Colley and Ronald W. Drach.

Commander CARDOSI. We will now have a report from the Committee on General Resolutions, National Security, Americanism and Membership, James Roy, chairman.

Mr. JAMES ROY. Commander Cardosi, comrades: The National Convention Committee on General Resolutions, National Security, Americanism and Membership was called to order for the first business session on July 30, 1990 by the committee advisors, Richard Schultz and O. J. Brooks.

The first order of business was the election of a convention chairman. James Roy was nominated for chairman, and there being no further nominations, nominations were closed and James Roy was elected as chairman.

The next order of business was the nomination and election of a secretary. John E. Goodman was nominated and elected as secretary of the committee.

The committee then proceeded to review the resolutions submitted, and I will now report out to you the resolutions recommended for adoption by the national convention. For the purpose of saving time, I will read only the number and the RESOLVED portion of the resolutions.

Before I do that, I'd like to report that out of the 21 districts, there were 20 delegates or alternates present for the meeting.

Resolution Number 033 to provide enforcement of the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968: THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Disabled American Veterans—excuse me. 033 was enforcement of the Architectural Barrier Enforcement Act of 1968.

Resolution 061 was appreciation of National Commander Vernon V. Cardosi.

Resolution Number 062 was the appreciation to all who are responsible for the success of the 69th National Convention.

Resolution Number 095 was to restore Memorial Day to May 30th.

Resolution 116 was to support a uniform reciprocal handicap parking agreement.

Resolution 123 was the Korean War MIA issue.

Resolution 178 was recommending nationwide telethon to raise funds for the National Korean War Monument in Washington, D. C.

Resolution 194, urging the display of the American flag at home, schools, federal and state property and county and city.

Resolution Number 280 was to resolve the POW and MIA issue in Southeast Asia.

Resolution 289 authorized the Purple Heart Medal to former POWs of World War I, World War II and the Korean War for injuries received during captivity.

Resolution 290 supporting a strong national defense.

Resolution Number 295 in support of the appropriate recognition of the military service performed by women.

Resolution 296 to establish a memorial and museum to honor the members of the Armed Forces and commemorate United States participation in World War II.

Resolution 299 in support of appropriate recognition of the military service performed by women during the Vietnam War.

Resolution 300, condemnation of public desecration of the flag of the United States.

Resolution 301 to eliminate the five-month waiting period for benefits of Social Security insurance, DIB.

Comrade Commander, this completes the report of the 69th National Convention committee, and I move for the adoption of the resolutions, that the committee will be discharged with the thanks of the national convention.

Mr. **Goodman**. Comrade Commander, Mike 3. I'm Delegate John E. Goodman from Chapter Number 26 in Texas. I second the motion to adopt those resolutions.

Commander CARDOSI. You've heard the motion to adopt the resolutions with a vote of thanks.

It's been moved and seconded. Yes.

[The above-mentioned resolutions follow:]

RESOLUTION No. 033—LEGISLATIVE

TO IMPROVE ENFORCEMENT OF THE ARCHITECTURAL BARRIERS ACT OF 1968

Whereas, the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 intended to provide handicapped individuals physical access to federal buildings; and

Whereas, the record of adherence to the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 is poor, at best; and

Whereas, the intent of the law was to provide for ready access by all handicapped individuals to all general purpose federal buildings; and

Whereas, the federal government has not fully complied with, implemented, or enforced the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, support full implementation and adherence to the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 and legislation that will ensure physical access for all handicapped individuals to all federally owned, renovated and leased buildings.

RESOLUTION No. 061—ADMINISTRATIVE

APPRECIATION TO NATIONAL COMMANDER VERNON V. CARDOSI

Whereas, as a result of the leadership of Disabled American Veterans National Commander Vernon V. Cardosi, the DAV has continued to be our nation's leading advocate for America's wartime service-connected disabled veterans and their families; and

Whereas, under the leadership of Commander Cardosi the DAV exposed and effectively responded to major threats posed against service-connected disability benefits; and

Whereas, under the stewardship of Commander Cardosi legislation was enacted into law increasing and expanding the benefits and services provided to America's service-connected disabled veterans and their families; and

Whereas, as a result of the untiring efforts of Commander Cardosi, DAV's membership has reached the one million member mark for the second consecutive year prior to the commencement of the National Convention; and

Whereas, as a result of his strong support DAV's life membership ranks continue to grow in record numbers; and

Whereas, Commander Cardosi's deep concern for America's veterans, their dependents and survivors required him to spend many long hours traveling throughout the country bringing the DAV's message to the public; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, recognizes the contributions Commander Cardosi has made toward furthering the interest of America's service-connected disabled veterans and their families; and

Be it further resolved that we extend our sincere appreciation and thanks to Commander Cardosi's family for their unselfish sharing of him during his year as National Commander.

RESOLUTION No. 062—ADMINISTRATIVE

APPRECIATION TO ALL WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE 69TH NATIONAL CONVENTION

Whereas, the success for the 69th DAV National Convention convened in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, depends on the total cooperation and unselfish devotion of the state, county and local officials; and

Whereas, the success of this National Convention is also attributed to the Department and local Chapters and Units of the DAV and DAVA, particularly to Convention Chairman Kenneth J. Wingett; and

Whereas, we wish to commend all the news media and the Anaheim Hilton and Towers Hotel for their encouragement and assistance at all of our Convention activities; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990 expresses its sincere appreciation to all groups and/or agencies whose dedication to our principles has made our Convention a successful one; and

Be it further resolved that we wish to extend to the citizens of Anaheim, California, our deepest gratitude for their personal interest in our great organization; and

Be it further resolved that we wish to extend our appreciation to all of the distinguished guests and to members of the U.S. Congress who participated in our Convention and support the ideals and principles of our great organization; and

Be it further resolved that we extend our gratitude to the Convention Chairman, Kenneth J. Wingett, and his entire Committee for providing personalized assistance to our friends and delegates during our Convention stay.

RESOLUTION NO. 095—LEGISLATIVE

RESTORE MEMORIAL DAY TO MAY 30

Whereas, the Congress of the United States has enacted legislation designating the last Monday in May as Memorial Day; and

Whereas, this has detracted from the significance of the day set aside to honor the memory of those who sacrificed their lives in the military service of their country; Now

Therefore, be it resolved by the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, that the Congress of the United States be respectfully requested to rescind its action setting the last Monday in May as Memorial Day and to reestablish May 30 as Memorial Day.

RESOLUTION NO. 116—ADMINISTRATIVE

SUPPORTING A RECIPROCAL HANDICAPPED PARKING AGREEMENT

Whereas, the Disabled American Veterans, through its Handicapped Parking Awareness Campaign, is providing a valuable service to our nation's handicapped drivers; and

Whereas, current federal law encourages states and the District of Columbia to develop a uniform system of handicapped parking; and

Whereas, a number of states fail to recognize the symbols of other states for the identification of motor vehicles transporting handicapped individuals; and

Whereas, failure to recognize such symbols poses a threat to the safety of handicapped drivers; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, support a reciprocal handicapped parking agreement between the states and the District of Columbia.

RESOLUTION NO. 123—ADMINISTRATIVE

THE KOREAN WAR MIA ISSUE

Whereas, there are over 8,000 Americans who are still unaccounted for from the Korean War; and

Whereas, North Korea has yet to give a reasonable response to the United Nations' appeal to account for the United Nations Command POWs and return the remains of the men who fought in the defense of freedom in Korea; and

Whereas, this lack of humanitarian cooperation has not blunted our determination to pursue the issue; and

Whereas, the families of those U. S. servicemen missing in Korea still suffer untold grief due to the lack of an adequate accounting; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, remain determined to resolve the status of Americans still unaccounted for in Korea through government-to-government channels.

RESOLUTION NO. 178—ADMINISTRATIVE

SUPPORT THE CONCEPT OF A NATIONWIDE TELETHON TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL IN WASHINGTON, DC

Whereas, Congress has authorized, and the Korean War Memorial Commission has made significant progress toward, establishing a Korean War Memorial in Washington, DC, in memory of our Korean Veterans; and

Whereas, some $5,000,000.00 (five million dollars) must be raised from the Public to defray costs of this memorial; and

Whereas, the Disabled American Veterans has been a prime supporter of this noble effort; and

Whereas, preliminary inquiries have indicated support for a Nationwide Telethon to raise funds for the Korean War Memorial and give the American people the opportunity to participate in this fundraising effort to honor this nation's Korean War veterans; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, support the concept of holding a Nationwide Telethon on Veterans Day, November 11, 1991 to raise the necessary funds for a Korean War Memorial.

RESOLUTION NO. 194—ADMINISTRATIVE

URGING THE DISPLAY OF U. S. FLAG

Whereas, the flag of the United States of America is the symbol of our nation; and

Whereas, there is an even greater need for display of our flag, not only on public buildings, schools, and state institutions, but from every home throughout this country; and

Whereas, a general display of the flag by our citizenry would reaffirm faith in our constitutional republic; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, urge all citizens to display the flag of the United States of America at their homes on all days set aside for special display of the flag as designated by the flag code.

RESOLUTION NO. 280—LEGISLATIVE

SEEKING THE IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF ANY AMERICANS WHO MAY STILL BE HELD CAPTIVE FOLLOWING WORLD WAR II, THE KOREAN WAR AND VIETNAM WAR AND THE RETURN OF THE REMAINS OF ANY AMERICANS WHO DIED DURING THESE WARS

Whereas, the members of the Disabled American Veterans are deeply concerned for the thousands of American servicemen still unaccounted for in the aftermath of World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War; and

Whereas, numerous efforts by high level American delegations including members of Congress have visited Southeast Asia in continuing efforts to solve the mystery of the whereabouts and fate of these brave men without success; and

Whereas, the brave families of these missing Americans continue to live in uncertainty and anguish regarding their missing sons and husbands; and

Whereas, there are still today more than seventy-eight thousand unaccounted for following World War II, some eight thousand from the Korean War and over two thousand three hundred in Southeast Asia from the Vietnam War who have not been forgotten; and

Whereas, in our gratitude for our POW/MIAs that have served to ensure that freedoms are preserved for future generations, we should rededicate ourselves to the cause of public awareness of those missing Americans and their families; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, urge our government not to forget those American's still missing or unaccounted for as a result of their participation in World War II, Korea and Vietnam; and

Be it further resolved that we call upon those governments who may have information relating to Americans still listed as missing or unaccounted for to make every possible effort to resolve this humanitarian issue; and

Be it further resolved that we urge the U. S. government to ensure that this issue be considered as one of America's highest priorities, accelerating efforts to obtain the release of any American who still may be held captive and obtain the fullest possible accounting of those still missing and the repatriation of the remains of those who died while serving our nation.

RESOLUTION NO. 289—LEGISLATIVE

AUTHORIZE THE PURPLE HEART MEDAL TO FORMER POWS OF WORLD WAR I, WORLD WAR II, AND THE KOREAN WAR FOR INJURIES RECEIVED DURING CAPTIVITY

Whereas, Title 32, U.S. Code, effective April 25, 1962, authorizes the award of the Purple Heart to prisoners-of-war for wounds or injuries sustained as a result of beatings and other forms of physical torture while in captivity; and

Whereas, prior to April 25, 1962, the Purple Heart Medal for former prisoners-of-war was only awarded to those who were wounded or injured in action prior to or at the time of capture or in an attempted or successful escape; and

Whereas, former prisoners-of-war of World War I, World War II and the Korean War were physically abused, beaten, tortured and placed on forced work details, without concern for their health by enemy guards and hostile civilians; and

Whereas, many of these servicemen, while in captivity, suffered from physical abuse, malnutrition and exhaustion, as well as received wounds and injuries as a result of direct and indirect action at the hands of their captors; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, support the enactment of legislation to provide the same consideration to the award of the Purple Heart Medal to former prisoners-of-war held captive prior to April 25, 1962, as afforded those captured after that date.

RESOLUTION NO. 290—LEGISLATIVE

SUPPORTING A STRONG NATIONAL DEFENSE

Whereas, the United States military forces are responsible for the defense of this nation and its interest abroad; and

Whereas, the the post cold war era continues to be filled with tension and danger; and

Whereas, U. S. interests continue to be challenged throughout the world requiring our military forces to be deployed in protection of world freedom; and

Whereas, we can never let our guard down; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, go on record urging Congress to provide adequate funds for the defense of our nation both at home and abroad.

RESOLUTION NO. 295—LEGISLATIVE

IN SUPPORT OF APPROPRIATE RECOGNITION OF THE MILITARY SERVICE PERFORMED BY WOMEN

Whereas, many national memorials have been erected depicting and honoring the military service of men during our nation's wars; and

Whereas, our nation's history is replete with accounts of women serving America during war; and

Whereas, historically our women veterans have not received the just recognition they deserve; and

Whereas, legislation has been enacted to establish a memorial on federal lands in the District of Columbia to honor women who have served in the Armed Forces of the United States; and

Whereas, the Disabled American Veterans has consistently supported equal benefits and recognition for women; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled Americans Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, support efforts to provide appropriate recognition to all women who served in the Armed Forces of the United States.

Resolution No. 296—Legislative

ESTABLISH A MEMORIAL AND MUSEUM TO HONOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES AND COMMEMORATE UNITED STATES' PARTICIPATION IN WORLD WAR II

Whereas, World War II profoundly affected the way we live today and the events and people who participated in that war have shaped our economic, political and cultural institutions; and

Whereas, over 16 million Americans served in our Armed Forces during World War II, with over 400,000 making the ultimate sacrifice in defense of freedom around the world; and

Whereas, there is no single national memorial recognizing the greatest war in which this nation has been involved in the 20th Century, where the choice between democracy and tyranny was crystal clear; and

Whereas, legislation has been introduced in the U.S. Congress to establish a National Memorial and Museum, to be located in our nation's capitol, to pay tribute to those valiant men and women who served in the military service during World War II; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, support the establishment of a memorial and museum to honor members of the Armed Forces and commemorate the United States' participation in World War II.

Resolution No. 299—Legislative

IN SUPPORT OF APPROPRIATE RECOGNITION OF THE MILITARY SERVICE PERFORMED BY WOMEN DURING THE VIETNAM WAR

Whereas, impressive memorials have been erected in our nation's capitol honoring the military service of those individuals who served our nation during armed conflict; and

Whereas, these memorials generally recognize the military service and sacrifices of male veterans; and

Whereas, since the conclusion of the Vietnam War a memorial was established to honor and commemorate the service of veterans who served during this war; and

Whereas, a statue of three infantrymen has been placed at the site of the Vietnam Veterans National Memorial depicting the service of men during the Vietnam War; and

Whereas, legislation has passed the U.S. Senate and is currently pending in the House of Representatives to place a statue of a female Vietnam veteran at the site of the Vietnam Veterans National Memorial, Washington, D.C.; and

Whereas, the Disabled American Veterans has consistently supported equal benefits and recognition for women veterans; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, continue to support appropriate recognition of the military service performed by women during the Vietnam War.

Resolution No. 300—Legislative

CONDEMNATION OF PUBLIC DESECRATION OF THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES

Whereas, the U.S. Supreme Court, by a 5-4 decision, has ruled that public desecration of the American Flag, as a form of free speech and expression, is legal and permissible; and

Whereas, THE American Flag—"Old Glory"—is our National Ensign, the proud, courageous and beautiful symbol of our country's precious, free heritage; and

Whereas, this symbol, in the form of our irreplaceable "Stars and Stripes", has been carried and defended in battle, revered and cherished by its citizens and viewed as a beacon of hope and fulfillment by all the world since it was first unfurled at the birth of our Nation; and

Whereas, the Constitutional First Amendment guarantee of freedom of speech was not intended by our Founding Fathers to enable individuals—who do enjoy the unfettered freedom to express their views, no matter how abhorrent, in both oral and written form—to publicly and contemptuously desecrate our beloved flag; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, shall go on record as condemning any individual or group who shall at any time publicly and willfully desecrate the flag of the United States.

RESOLUTION NO. 301—LEGISLATIVE

ELIMINATE THE FIVE-MONTH WAITING PERIOD FOR SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY INSURANCE BENEFITS (DIB)

Whereas, under current law, individuals are not paid Social Security Disability Insurance Benefits (DIB) during the first five calendar months they meet the definition of disability; and

Whereas, this is the period during which they are most in need of benefits to partially replace lost earnings and defray medical costs; and

Whereas, the five-month waiting period precludes many terminally ill individuals from receiving *any* benefits and severely constricts the benefit period for other terminally ill individuals; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, seek the enactment of legislation which would eliminate the waiting period for the award of Social Security Disability Insurance Benefits.

Mr. **REMSEN**. Comrade Commander, Steve Remsen, delegate from and adjutant of Chapter 24, Miami Beach, Surfside. There was one other matter that came before the committee which has not been reported, probably because we really don't know how to handle it.

I saw that wonderful film yesterday dealing with volunteers, and then I went back to my motel, and I could not sleep last night because I did not believe and do not believe that giving my four hours every Tuesday afternoon as a volunteer is the greatest gift of all. I cannot believe that you are saying to me that that is a greater gift than my buddies gave who did not come back from the Battle of the Bulge. I cannot believe that you are saying to me that the boys who were left on Hamburger Hill did not give a greater gift.

We are important as volunteers, but I believe, and some of the others in that room believe that the title should be changed. Call it a great gift, call it a very great gift, but don't try to convince us that it is the very greatest gift of all.

Commander **CARDOSI**. Hold on a second. Was this a resolution?

MEMBER. No, Commander.

Commander **CARDOSI**. Sir, I'm going to have to rule you out of order. Thank you very much.

It's been moved and seconded. is there any discussion on the resolutions? No discussions? All those in favor, signify by saying Aye; all opposed. The Ayes have it, and so ordered. Thank you. [Applause.]

The next committee is the Hospital and Voluntary Services, and the chairman is Bernie Robidoux.

Mr. **BERNARD ROBIDOUX**. Comrade Commander Vernon Cardosi and delegates: The National Convention Committee on Hospital and Voluntary Services called to order for its first business session on July 30th, 1990; the committee advisors, David Gorman and Greg Reed.

The first order of business was the election of a convention committee chairman. Bernie Robidoux was nominated for chairman. There being no further nominations, nominations were closed, and Bernie Robidoux was elected chairman.

The next order of business was the nomination and election of a secretary. John T. Griffin was nominated and elected as secretary of the committee.

The committee then proceeded to review the resolutions submitted, and I will now report to you the resolutions recommended for adoption by the national convention. For the purpose of saving time, I will read only the number and RESOLVED portion of the resolutions.

Resolution 305: THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Disabled American Veterans in national convention assembled in Anaheim, California, seeks the enactment of adequate appropriations for the funding of the VA medical and care program and vigorously oppose any further reduction in VA health care personnel or operating beds.

Resolution 167: NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we go on record imploring the Congress through the Budget Committee to review this shortfall in funding for pay scales and these professionals, and may it be raised to conform with the private sector, thus increasing our capabilities to hire skilled physicians and nurses.

Resolution 130: THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Department of Massachusetts Disabled American Veterans assembled in the state convention in Hyannis, Massachusetts, that we urge Congress in its annual appropriation to provide funds to enable the Department of Veterans Affairs to carry out a planned program of modernizing or replacement of aging facilities which include a sound system for setting construction priorities and maintaining an up-to-date system of health care facilities and one suited to its mission of providing medical service for the nation's veterans; and

FURTHER, MAY IT BE RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the national convention.

Resolution 121: THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Department of Massachusetts Disabled American Veterans assembled in the state convention in Hyannis, Massachusetts, seeks the enactment of legislation which would extend Department of Veterans Affairs' medical and dental benefits to all Medal of Honor recipients; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy would be sent to the national convention.

Resolution 129: THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Department of Massachusetts Disabled American Veterans assembled in Hyannis, Massachusetts, that we urge Congress to do so, amend Section 610 of Title 38 and to mandate the provisions of nursing home care for those now entitled to in-patient care.

Resolution 278: THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Disabled American Veterans, Department of Missouri, assembled in the annual convention in Jefferson City, Missouri support legislation to make in-patient and out-patient treatment mandatory in the Department of Veterans Affairs' medical facilities for any disability for former prisoners of war who were interned not less than 90 days.

Resolution 16: THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Disabled American Veterans in the department convention assembled in Bismarck, North Dakota, seek enactment of legislation to extend the chiropractic service to all eligible veterans on request.

Resolution 261: NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the national legislation director of the Disabled American Veterans oppose legislation which would require disabled retired veterans or their dependents to pay a user fee to use military medical clinics and out-patient facilities, and appear before the Armed Services Committee of the U. S. House of Representatives and the U. S. Senate or any committee which would implement a user's fee for the use of military or VA out-patient medical clinics.

Resolution Number 17: THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Disabled American Veterans, Department of North Dakota, in their convention assembled in Bismarck, North Dakota, support an increase in the maximum monthly fee basis out-patient care from $75 to $100.

Resolution 107: THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Department of Massachusetts Disabled American Veterans in the state convention in Hyannis, Massachusetts, support the enactment of legislation to amend Section 628(a)(2), Title 38, U. S. Code, providing for the consideration of reimbursement of certain medical expenses incurred by former prisoners of war.

Number 168: NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Number 26 go on record in supporting this resolution and forwarding same to the district department and national convention and implore the organization to take the initiative in this matter and promote legislation to allow these taxpayer educated and trained specialists to continue to pay dividends by serving at medical centers throughout this nation without being penalized by taking their retirement benefits. After all, we have a tough time competing with the private sector when hiring medical personnel, namely so far as pay scales are concerned.

Number 603, title, "U. S. Code": THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Disabled American Veterans in national convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29 to August 2nd, 1990, support legislation to amend Section 603, Title 38, U. S. Code, to permit the Department of Veterans Affairs to furnish contract hospital care to those service-connected disabled veterans identified in Section 610(a)(1) when required.

Resolution 304: THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Disabled American Veterans in the national convention assembled in Anaheim, California, support the enactment of legislation that would promote a broader and greater degree of sharing between the health care systems of the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense.

Resolution 306: THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Disabled American Veterans in the national convention assembled in Anaheim, California, urge the U. S. Congress to expand the Vietnam Veterans Outreach Center Program to include eligible veterans from all wars; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Veterans Vietnam Outreach Center Program be renamed the Veterans Outreach Center Program.

Resolution 307: THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Disabled American Veterans in the national convention assembled in Anaheim, California, support the enactment of legislation that would authorize the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide appropriate no medical support services to veterans entitled to out-patient or ambulatory care under the provisions of Section 612, Title 38, U. S. Code.

Resolution 308: THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Disabled American Veterans in the national convention assembled in Anaheim, California, vigorously oppose any national health insurance plan which proposes to incorporate the VA hospital system.

Resolution 309: THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Disabled American Veterans in the national convention assembled in Anaheim, California, support the continuation of adequate funding for the construction, expansion, remodeling or acquisition of state veterans' home facilities under the VA grant program.

Comrade Commander, this completes the report of the Hospital and Voluntary Service National Convention Committee, and I move the adoption of these resolutions, and that the committee be discharged with the thanks of the national convention.

Mr. **Griffin**. Comrade Commander, Mike 1. John Griffin, Port Huron Chapter Number 12, delegate, support.

Commander **Cardosi**. Thank you. It has been moved and seconded that the Hospital and Voluntary Service resolutions be adopted and the committee be discharged with a vote of thanks. Is there any discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor, signify by saying Aye; any opposed. Ayes have it, and so ordered.

Thank you very much, Bernie, for that fine report. [Applause.]

Resolution No. 016—Administrative

AUTHORIZE A FULL RANGE OF CHIROPRACTIC SERVICES FOR ELIGIBLE VETERANS

Whereas, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has thwarted efforts to make chiropractic health care available to veterans; and

Whereas, the VA presently has the authority to furnish hospital care, including chiropractic services, to veteran patients; and

Whereas, the VA has neglected or refrained from providing chiropractic care to those veterans who request such service; and

Whereas, a hardship has been placed upon veterans who desire chiropractic services by requiring that they pay, out of pocket, for such chiropractic care; and

Whereas chiropractic treatment is authorized by the Department of Health and Human Services as a complementary mode of health care available to senior citizens and is recognized by the Department of Labor under the Federal Employees Workers Compensation Act; and

Whereas, all chiropractic health care administered to senior citizens, and any federal employees is paid in full or in part by state and federal (Medicare) agencies; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, seek the enactment of legislation to extend chiropractic services to eligible veterans on request.

RESOLUTION NO. 017—ADMINISTRATIVE

SUPPORT AN INCREASE IN THE MAXIMUM MONTHLY AMOUNT OF FEE BASIS CARE FROM $75.00 TO $100.00

Whereas, it has been more than (6) years since the maximum monthly amount for fee basis care was increased; and

Whereas, since that time the cost of medical care in the United States has dramatically increased; and

Whereas, as a result of the maximum $75.00 monthly limit on fee basis outpatient care, some service-connected veterans are forced to pay a portion of the cost for their outpatient medical care; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, support an increase in the maximum monthly fee basis outpatient care from $75.00 to $100.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 107—LEGISLATIVE

PROVIDE FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF CERTAIN MEDICAL EXPENSES FOR FORMER PRISONERS-OF-WAR

Whereas, current law extends eligibility to former prisoners-of-war for hospital care, as well as outpatient treatment for any disability; and

Whereas, former prisoners-of-war have endured numerous hardships and dietary deficiencies as a result of their internment; and

Whereas, former prisoners-of-war may require medical treatment of an emergent nature to a degree that any delay could be hazardous to their health or life; and

Whereas, a Department of Veterans Affairs health care facility may not be feasibly available to provide the necessary emergency medical care; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, support the enactment of legislation to amend Section 628(a) (2), Title 38, USC, providing for the consideration of reimbursement of certain medical expenses incurred by former prisoners-of-war.

RESOLUTION NO. 121—LEGISLATIVE

EXTEND DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL AND DENTAL BENEFITS TO MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS

Whereas, this nation owes a great debt of gratitude to those individuals who have displayed unselfish heroism in the defense of freedom; and

Whereas, recipients of the nation's highest award for heroism and valor on the battlefield are not accorded special medical benefits; and

Whereas, many of the living Medal of Honor recipients are not entitled to military retirement benefits, including medical benefits; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, seek the enactment of legislation which would extend Department of Veterans Affairs medical and dental benefits to all Medal of Honor recipients.

RESOLUTION No. 129—LEGISLATIVE

GUARANTEED ENTITLEMENT TO NURSING HOME CARE

Whereas, Section 610 of Title 38, USC, stipulates in detail those for whom VA shall furnish hospital care, this section limits nursing home care to "may" be provided; and

Whereas, this is clearly discriminatory in that a veteran entitled by law to patient care ceases to have that protection should his service-connected condition, for example, deteriorate to a state requiring long-term nursing home care; and

Whereas, this discretionary loophole may serve as an underlying factor in VA's reluctance to convert beds to the long-term needs of aging veterans; and

Whereas, surely it cannot be the intent of the Congress to define eligibility for inpatient hospital care and exclude those eligibles who, following acute or intermediate care, now find themselves in need of nursing home care; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, urge Congress to so amend Section 610 of Title 38 USC as to mandate the provision of nursing home care for those now entitled to inpatient care.

RESOLUTION No. 130—LEGISLATIVE

SUPPORT ADEQUATE FUNDING FOR VA CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM

Whereas, Department of Veterans Affairs medical care facilities are expected to provide quality health care services to disabled veterans; and

Whereas, more than 53% of all VA medical facilities are now over 30 years old; and

Whereas, there exists a continuing need for replacement, modernization, renovation, clinical and safety improvements at many VA facilities; and

Whereas, the ability to deliver quality health care services to this nation's disabled veterans entails a commitment to modern, safe and efficient medical facilities; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, seek the enactment of adequate appropriations for the VA construction program.

RESOLUTION No. 167—LEGISLATIVE

SUPPORTING ADEQUATE SALARY AND PAY LEVELS FOR VA PHYSICIANS, DENTISTS AND NURSES

Whereas, chronic underfunding of the VA medical care program continues to hamper the VA's ability to provide timely, complete and quality health care services to veterans; and

Whereas, physicians, dentists, and nurses form the basic framework and nucleus for the provision of health care services to veterans; and

Whereas, there continues to exist a genuine crisis in the VA's ability to recruit and retain an adequate number of qualified health care providers; and

Whereas, a significant factor in the ability to hire qualified health care providers is adequate pay that is competitive to private sector pay; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, seek the enactment of legislation providing for adequate salary and pay levels for VA physicians, dentists, and nurses.

RESOLUTION No. 168—LEGISLATIVE

SUPPORT THE PROTECTION OF MILITARY RETIREMENT PAY FOR INDIVIDUALS EMPLOYED BY THE VA PROVIDING DIRECT PATIENT CARE

Whereas, current law imposes a substantial reduction in military retired pay for retired officers when employed in civilian positions in the federal government; and

Whereas, such a reduction makes employment in the VA less attractive for retired military health officers; and

Whereas, there currently exists a significant crisis recruiting and retaining an adequate number of qualified health care providers; and

Whereas, permitting retired military officers to be employed by the VA without loss or reduction of their earned retirement pay would greatly enhance VA's ability to employ qualified professionals; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, support the enactment of legislation to amend Section 4107(i), Title 38, USC, permitting retired military personnel who provide direct patient care to accept employment in a VA medical care facility without losing their earned military retirement benefits.

RESOLUTION NO. 261—LEGISLATIVE

OPPOSING THE IMPOSITION OF USER FEES FOR OUTPATIENT MEDICAL CARE AT MILITARY MEDICAL FACILITIES

Whereas, military retirees have earned the right, by virtue of service to this nation, to utilize military medical facilities to meet their medical care needs and those of their dependents; and

Whereas, this earned benefit has been established by the Congress through the enactment of legislation entitling military retirees and their dependents to utilize military medical facilities to meet their medical care needs; and

Whereas, the charging of a user's fee would adversely impact upon military retirees' financial and medical well-being; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, oppose any proposal that will require a military retiree or their dependents to be charged a user's fee in order to obtain outpatient medical services at military medical facilities.

RESOLUTION NO. 278—LEGISLATIVE

IN SUPPORT OF LIBERALIZATIONS BENEFICIAL TO FORMER PRISONERS-OF-WAR

Whereas, Congress has long recognized the special needs of former prisoners-of-war due to the deprivations of the prisoner-of-war experience and has enacted certain liberalized medical and dental care eligibility criteria; and

Whereas, many medical benefits and services as administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs remain discretionary for many former prisoners; and

Whereas, liberalization of law requiring the mandatory provision of outpatient treatment in Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Centers for any disability for former prisoners-of-war is logical and consistent with the provision of inpatient care; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, support legislation to make outpatient treatment mandatory in Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facilities, for any disability, for former prisoners-of-war.

RESOLUTION NO. 303—LEGISLATIVE

TO AMEND SECTION 603, TITLE 38, USC, REGARDING VA CONTRACT HOSPITALIZATION

Whereas, Public Law 99-272, the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985, statutorily mandates the Department of Veterans Affairs to furnish service-connected disabled veterans with needed inpatient health care services; and

Whereas, needed health care services are required to be provided in a Department of Veterans Affairs medical center, a Department of Defense medical facility or, in a non-federal, private hospital under VA contract, if the veteran is in need of immediate care; and

Whereas, Section 603, Title 38, USC, is limited and restrictive concerning which veterans may be authorized contract hospital care; and

Whereas, this provision places service-connected disabled veterans in jeopardy of being denied required medical services; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, support legislation to amend Section 603, Title 38, USC, to permit the Department of Veterans Affairs to furnish contract hospital care to those service-connected disabled veterans as identified in Section 610(a) (1) when required.

RESOLUTION NO. 304—LEGISLATIVE

IN SUPPORT OF INCREASED SHARING OF RESOURCES BETWEEN THE HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Whereas, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Department of Defense (DOD) currently administer programs which provide a full range of medical care services to veterans, active duty personnel, military retirees and dependents; and

Whereas, due to years of inadequate funding and increasing needs on the part of beneficiaries, both the VA and DOD health care systems are experiencing a crisis which endangers their respective missions; and

Whereas, since 1982, the VA/DOD Health Resources Sharing and Emergency Operations Act has authorized sharing arrangements between these two systems for the purpose of minimizing duplication and under utilization of resources and promoting cost-effectiveness and improvement in the delivery of care; and

Whereas, many VA and DOD treatment facilities have entered into sharing agreements that have proven mutually beneficial and enhanced their ability to provide hospital and medical care services; and

Whereas, existing statutory constraints and less than concise and clear leadership directives from Washington, D.C., stand as a barrier to a full realization of this VA/DOD sharing potential; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, support the enactment of legislation that would promote a broader and greater degree of sharing between the health care systems of the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense.

RESOLUTION NO. 305—LEGISLATIVE

SUPPORTING ADEQUATE FUNDING, STAFFING AND BED LEVELS FOR THE VA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

Whereas, underfunding of the VA medical care program continues to hamper the VA's ability to provide timely, complete and quality health care to veterans; and

Whereas, the Office of Management and Budget continues to seek reductions in the number of VA health care personnel; and

Whereas, the results of fewer personnel equates to a reduced number of available and operating hospital beds for the treatment of eligible veterans; and

Whereas, adequate funds should be provided to maintain and improve medical care for all of America's wartime disabled veterans in order to ensure that they will continue to receive medical care second to none; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, seek the enactment of adequate appropriations for the funding of the VA medical care program and vigorously oppose any further reduction in VA health care personnel or operating beds.

RESOLUTION NO. 306—LEGISLATIVE

TO PROVIDE READJUSTMENT COUNSELING TO VETERANS OF ALL WARS

Whereas, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) is now recognized as a service-connected disability by the medical community and the Department of Veterans Affairs; and

Whereas, it is now common knowledge that PTSD has existed in all wars fought by this great nation; and

Whereas, the Department of Veterans Affairs has a special nationwide program known as the Vietnam Veterans Outreach Center Program that is designed to assist veterans with PTSD; and

Whereas, eligibility to the program is limited to veterans who served during the Vietnam era only; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, urge the U.S. Congress to expand the Vietnam Veterans Outreach Center Program to include eligible veterans from all wars; and

Be it further resolved that the Vietnam Veterans Outreach Center Program be renamed the "Veterans Outreach Center Program."

RESOLUTION NO. 307—LEGISLATIVE

PROVIDE CERTAIN NONMEDICAL SUPPORT SERVICES IN THE HOME HEALTH SERVICES PROGRAM

Whereas, Congress established the Home Health Services Program for the effective and economical continuation of treatment for veterans as an alternative to extended hospitalization or long-term institutionalization; and

Whereas, the provision of supportive medical services under this program has resulted in a uniformly high level of care being furnished to eligible veterans in their homes; and

Whereas, the cost effectiveness of this program has been amply documented; and

Whereas, to effectively accommodate the "whole patient concept," flexibility is required to authorize furnishing of certain nonmedical support functions, such as domestic, custodial or homemaker services; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, support the enactment of legislation that would authorize the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide appropriate nonmedical support services to veterans entitled to outpatient or ambulatory care under the provisions of Section 612, Title 38, USC.

RESOLUTION NO. 308—LEGISLATIVE

OPPOSING THE INCLUSION OF THE VA HOSPITAL SYSTEM IN ANY NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN

Whereas, a proposal to make the Department of Veterans Affairs hospital system part of a National Health Insurance Plan has been suggested; and

Whereas, it is the policy of the Disabled American Veterans to preserve high quality VA hospital and medical care for veterans with disabilities incurred in or aggravated by service in America's Armed Forces; and

Whereas, the inclusion of the VA hospital system in a National Health Insurance Plan would destroy the VA's special medical care programs, specifically designed for the treatment of veterans whose disabilities are incident to military service; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, vigorously oppose any National Health Insurance Plan which proposes to incorporate the VA hospital system.

RESOLUTION NO. 309—LEGISLATIVE

CONTINUATION OF GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF STATE HOME FACILITIES

Whereas, the Department of Veterans Affairs projects the number of veterans over age 65 will increase dramatically, peaking at 8.9 million by the year 1999; and

Whereas, there will be an ever-increasing number of older veterans seeking the assistance offered by State Veterans Homes due to advancing age and associated medical problems; and

Whereas, the 55 State Veterans Homes in 36 states and the District of Columbia now provide 18,646 beds for the care and treatment of elderly and disabled veterans; and

Whereas, most planning for modernization and/or expansion is predicated upon the availability of grant funds through the Department of Veterans Affairs; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, support the continuation of adequate funding for the construction, expansion, remodeling, or acquisition of State Veterans Home facilities under the VA's grant program.

Commander CARDOSI. I know we're all getting hungry, but I'm going to try to get in some more reports, because we have a lot of business to take up at this convention.

We will now hear from the Finance and Dues Committee, Mr. Bill Wiggins, chairman.

Mr. BILL WIGGINS. Thank you, Commander. Comrade Commander, national officers, distinguished guests and fellow delegates: The National Convention Committee on Finance and Dues was called to order for its first business session on Monday, July 30th, 1990 by National Finance Committee Chairman Don Pouliot, who introduced Committee Advisor Charles Cryder.

At this time, I would normally read the members that served on this committee, but due to the time element involved, I would like to personally thank each and every one of them for serving with me to help make my job a much easier one.

The first order of business was the election of a convention committee chairman. Bill Wiggins was nominated for chairman. There being no further nominations, the nominations were closed and Bill Wiggins was elected chairman.

The next order of business was the nomination and election of a secretary. Richard Hennessey of Connecticut was nominated and elected secretary of the committee.

Resolutions 037, 038, 048, 122 and 175 were submitted to this committee for consideration, and the following actions were taken.

Resolution 037, submitted by the Department of South Dakota, was tabled for further study by National Headquarters. This resolution requests the national organization establish a fund to be used in cost-sharing projects with all federal land management agencies designed to improve handicapped accessibility to recreational programs.

Resolutions 38, 48, 122 and 175 were rejected with no further consideration by the committee.

The committee reviewed the 1989 audited financial report with Comptroller Charles Cryder. The comptroller also reviewed the 1991 proposed budget, which was referred to the Convention Finance and Dues Committee by the National Finance Committee with their recommendation for adoption. The 1991 proposed budget was approved by unanimous vote of the committee and recommended its adoption.

The committee then expressed thanks to Charles Cryder and to National Finance Committee Chairman Don Pouliot for their assistance in performing the work of this important committee. Having no further business, the committee adjourned.

Comrade Commander, at this time, this completes the report of the Convention Committee on Finance and Dues, and I hereby move for the adoption of this report and that the committee be discharged with the thanks of the national convention.

Commander CARDOSI. Do I hear a second?

Ms. FIELDS. Mike 3. Noble Fields, commander, Chapter 144. I second.

Commander CARDOSI. It's been moved and seconded that the report of the Finance and Dues be discharged with a vote of thanks. Is there any discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor, signify by saying Aye; opposed. Ayes so have it.

Thank you very much.

Mr. WIGGINS. Thank you, Commander. [Applause.]

Commander **Cardosi**. Ladies and gentlemen, will you rise as I ask Chaplain Wilkie to lead us in prayer.

Chaplain **Wilkie**. Let us pray. Thou Most Holy and Glorious Lord God, as we are now called to refreshment and will be separated from this place, bless us in our fellowship with each other, and while we're at refreshment protect us and bring us safely back to this place with renewed strength and energy. Amen.

Commander **Cardosi**. The convention now stands in recess until 1:00 o'clock this afternoon. Thank you.

[Whereupon, the meeting recessed at 11:45 o'clock a.m., July 30, 1990.]

SECOND BUSINESS SESSION

The Second Business Session of the Disabled American Veterans 69th National Convention convened in the California Pavilion of the Anaheim Hilton Hotel and Towers, Anaheim, California, Monday afternoon, July 30, 1990, and was called to order at 1:05 o'clock p.m. by Commander Vernon V. Cardosi.

Commander **Vernon V. Cardosi**. The convention will now come to order. Please join me in a salute to the flag.

[Salute to the flag.]

Commander **Cardosi**. Chaplain, will you now lead us in prayer?

Chaplain **Wilkie**. Let us pray. Our Heavenly Father, as we resume our labors, we invoke Thy blessing to rest upon us. Help us that we may indeed acknowledge You as the Source of all wisdom, strength and power, and help us as we call upon Thee, O God, that we may realize in our hearts that Thou wilt direct us, for we place our trust in You. We acknowledge our dependence and our weakness, but we know that Thou art powerful, so we pray again that Thou wilt direct us, bless us and keep us in paths of righteousness and truth. In Thy Great and Holy Name. Amen.

Commander **Cardosi**. And now it gives me great pleasure to introduce Ronald W. Drach, national employment director, for presentation of Employment Awards. Ron.

Mr. **Drach**. Thank you very much, Commander. Good afternoon, everyone. It's indeed a pleasure to be before you again to present some more awards, but before that, we have a slight deviation in the schedule.

I'd like to introduce for another brief introduction and presentation Mr. Michael McLean, associate vice-president of Julian J. Studley, Incorporated. Mike.

Mr. **Michael McLean**. In 1946, a special movie was made called "Best Years of Our Lives." In fact, it was so special that it won seven Academy Awards for best picture, best actor, best director, best screenplay, best film editing and best score. It also received an award for best supporting actor, and that is the reason for my presence here today at the national DAV convention.

The best supporting actor's name is Harold Russell, a disabled veteran and a man known to most of you in this room. His performance was so special that he not only received an Oscar for best supporting actor, but was also the recipient of a second Oscar for bringing hope and courage to his fellow veterans. He is the first and the only actor to ever receive two Academy Awards for the same role in a motion picture, an outstanding achievement even by today's standards.

In the late 1950s, a group of Hollywood businessmen conceived the Hollywood Walk of Fame, honoring those who have helped make Hollywood one of the world's most famous cities. It is visited each year by more than three million people and is now a historic landmark.

In 1960, Harold Russell was immortalized in history by having his name placed in a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame at 6752 Hollywood Boulevard. But someone forgot to invite Harold to the ceremony. In fact, it wasn't until November 1989 that Harold stood with his family and had his first photograph taken at the star.

Today when a star is added to the Walk of Fame, a TV crew films the event, crowds flock to the area, and the recipient receives a one-of-a-kind commemorative plaque. In 1960, no plaque was ever presented to Harold Russell.

Well, I am here to change all that today. Harold, it is with great pride and admiration that I stand here in front of your fellow veterans to thank you for your courage and your dedication, and on behalf of the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce present to you your personal commemorative plaque designating you a recipient of a star on the Hollywood Walk of FAme. [Rising applause.]

Mr. HAROLD RUSSELL. Thank you very much. Just very, very briefly, National Commander, officers, and my fellow members of the DAV: When I accepted that second Oscar before the Academy Awards, I said, "This Oscar is dedicated to the 17 million men and women who came back from World War II, to hundreds of thousands of hospitalized veterans and to those who did not come back.

This afternoon, I reaffirm that dedication. God bless the DAV, and God bless all of you. Thank you very much, Mike. [Applause.]

Mr. DRACH. Commander Cardosi, National Adjutant Joeckel, delegates, friends and guests: It is my pleasure to be here with you today to introduce some outstanding people who are nominated by you in the various employment categories.

Our first honoree is the Outstanding Local Veterans' Employment Representative, LVER. LVERs are located throughout the country at job service offices and play a key role in their community as advocates for veterans. Their primary role is to assist veterans in obtaining suitable employment and training opportunities.

This year's recipient of the award is a service-connected disabled veteran and life member of the DAV in Oklahoma. She developed and instituted a veterans' services workshop to inform veterans of available employment and training assistance. She oversees all veterans' services, including monitoring of their participation in federally funded employment and training programs.

Our honoree uses every available opportunity to enhance veterans' employment. She has insight into the employment needs of veterans. Her dedication and willingness to ensure veterans are employed has resulted in many hard-to-place veterans entering the work force.

Her former office manager, Jack Simms, said, "Her leadership, coupled with caring, unending energy and determination, makes Sandy an inspiration to us all."

Commander Cardosi, I present to you the nation's outstanding LVER for 1990, Sandra A. Merchant of Shawnee, Oklahoma. [Applause.]

Commander CARDOSI. Congratulations, and I proudly present the National Commander's Award to the Nation's Outstanding Local Veterans' Employment Representative, Sandra Merchant from Norman, Oklahoma, for her outstanding dedication and distinguished employment assistance to our nation's service-connected disabled American veterans and other veterans. Congratulations. [Applause.]

Ms. SANDRA A. MERCHANT. Thank you very much. Commander, national officers, comrades and guests: For the time that I've been aware of the LVER of the Year Award Program, it has symbolized to me the achievement of the highest degree of excellence in veterans' services. But as a recipient, I now see a different meaning in this award, for now to me it serves as an incentive to explore new avenues of service.

This is also a very great honor. It's not one I pursued. It's not one I expected to receive, and it's certainly not one that I can claim for myself. The honor and many thanks belong to the many people who have supported and assisted me, and who have actually done a great deal of the work involved in serving the vets.

From our state office: Mr. Lee McGow, the director of Veterans' Services; Mr. Herb Bailey, our field supervisor; Mr. Jeff Fredericks, his assistant. I'd also like to thank our district manager, Mr. Bill Hannah, for his unending support in reinstituting veterans' services in the Norman office.

Many thanks to our former local office manager, Mr. Jack Simms, who's happily retired at this moment, and to his management team, Jeff Haddad and Susie Berry. Many thanks also to the veterans employment and training staff of the Department of Labor, and to the local office staff, especially those on the employment side who have supported the vet program more than any staff I've ever seen in the State of Oklahoma.

Moreover, I'd like to thank my work study, who's a college student at the University of Oklahoma. He is not a war era veteran. He's about 26 years old and does a fabulous job serving the veterans in my absence.

I'd also like to thank my fellow vet reps. throughout the state for their support and cooperation, especially Mr. Mellran, out of the Shawnee local office, for his training, and for those in the Oklahoma City area for their continued support and teamwork; the officers and service officers from all of the veterans' organizations in Shawnee and in the Norman and Cleveland County area; and the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs service officers, as well as the staff of the VA Education Assistance Center for always being so willing to help.

Most of all, I'd like to thank my husband, Don, who has patiently tried to understand, though he hasn't always succeeded. Not being a veteran, he doesn't quite understand how special it is to work with other veterans.

And I'd like to thank the Good Lord most of all, for teaching me many lessons along the way, including the importance of walking gently upon the face of the earth, responding to that of God in everybody. Thank you very much. [Applause.]

Mr. Drach. In order for the LVERs to be effective, they must have the support of the office manager and the entire office staff. It is through this relationship that more and better quality job placements occur for veterans. In most instances, it is not the LVER working alone, but the LVER encouraging and getting her co-workers excited about serving veterans that provides increased employment opportunities.

It is because of this we recognize the local office. Here today to accept the award on behalf of the Norman, Oklahoma Employment Security Commission is their district manager, Mr. Bill Hannah. Bill. [Applause.]

Commander Cardosi. Bill, I'm proud to present this award to you for distinguished service to our nation's disabled veterans in ensuring them the opportunity to lead productive lives by pursuing meaningful careers. This is the Commander's Award. Congratulations. [Applause.]

Mr. Bill Hannah. Commander, national officers, Mr. Drach, delegates, honored guests, ladies and gentlemen: I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the pleasure and the privilege to attend your 69th Annual DAV Convention. I would also like to take this opportunity to personally thank Mr. Drach for his long hours of much hard work in his continued support of the veterans' employment programs.

On behalf of the staff of the Norman local office and the veterans' staff of the Oklahoma City District, I accept this prestigious award.

Also, we are extremely proud of our winner, the LVER of the Year, Sandra Merchant, and all I can say to Sandra is, "Job well done."

Once again, thank you very much for this award. [Applause.]

Mr. Drach. Our next recipient is an individual who by virtue of his dedication to serving his fellow disabled veterans has earned the recognition as the 1990 Outstanding Disabled Veteran Outreach Person, DVOP.

According to Ralph G. Grant, manager of the Bangor, Maine Job Service Division, our honoree has, "the highest placement rate for disabled veterans in the state." He is also credited with providing employment or other support services to approximately 97 percent of those seeking his assistance.

He credits his DAV membership in helping him contact community leaders. This relationship helps him obtain employment and training for the state's disabled veterans.

This year's recipient has helped the Bangor, Maine Job Service office achieve the greatest percentage of referrals in the state of those who need counseling, training and job development. These are services that are mandated to be provided by law.

According to Rona Backstrom, field supervisor of the Maine Job Service office, "When you hear Dick talking with a veteran, you know he really cares."

Commander Cardosi, it is with great pleasure I present to you a life member of the DAV in Old Town, Maine, the Outstanding

DVOP of the Year, Richard A. McCrum, from Bangor, Maine. [Applause.]

Commander CARDOSI. Richard, near home, up in Maine, it gives me great pleasure to present this award, "for his outstanding accomplishments and dedication in assisting disabled veterans obtain employment and training opportunities, and for his contributions to the disabled veterans' outreach program," it gives me great pleasure to present this award to you, signed by myself, Vernon Cardosi, national commander, and Charles E. Joeckel, Jr., national adjutant. Congratulations. [Applause.]

Mr. RICHARD A. MCCRUM. Well, I'm a person of few words. This is quite a surprise to me. This is something I wouldn't have received without my local office support, the other members of the office, and without the persistence of the DAV and other organizations in keeping the services available for us to refer these veterans into.

If we stay persistent, we'll have them working. Thank you. [Applause.]

Mr. DRACH. Like the LVER, the DVOP is unable to adequately perform the functions of his job without the support of the entire local office. It is because of this support that we also honor that office in which the individual is employed.

Here today to accept the award on behalf of the Bangor, Maine Job Service Division is the office manager, Mr. Ralph Grant. [Applause.]

Commander CARDOSI. Ralph, it gives me great pleasure to present this award to you, Job Service Division, Maine, Department of Labor, Bureau of Employment Security, for distinguished service to our nation's disabled veterans in ensuring them the opportunity to lead productive lives by pursuing meaningful careers. And I'm proud to present to you from Vernon Cardosi, national commander, and it's also signed by our great national adjutant, Charles E. Joeckel. [Applause.]

Mr. RALPH GRANT. Officers and fellow DAV vet reps. here—I like to call you "vet reps," because a lot of the DAV people have helped us tremendously in doing our job in trying to service veterans from the state level, also from the local chapter—we appreciate this award. We've tried for years to get on board and get one. This has been a banner year for our office. We received a state DAV award for both the DVOP and the LVER, and then we went on to win the state award for the Veterans of Foreign Wars. And then on top of all that, we win the national award for the DAV, and for all that, I want to thank you people very much. [Applause.]

Mr. DRACH. This year's competition for the Large Employer of the Year was probably the most intense that we've had in many years. This award is presented each year to a large business that exemplifies aggressive efforts in hiring veterans and disabled veterans.

This year's recipient is a federal contractor with the Department of Navy at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard, and although nominated by the Department of Pennsylvania, is actually headquartered in Virginia.

For the past several years, this company has averaged a total veteran work force in excess of 50 percent. Disabled veterans represent over 15 percent of their employees. Top management of this firm are retired servicemen who have established a company policy of veterans' preference in the hiring of new employees.

They also list all of their jobs with the Pennsylvania Job Service office and use that service as their primary recruiting source. They have hired veterans and disabled veterans through the Veterans' Job Training Act, the Target Jobs Tax Credit Program, and the Jobs Training Partnership Act.

Here representing the large employer, Research Management Corporation, headquartered in Virginia Beach, Virginia, is their vice-president, Dennis Garcia. [Applause.]

Commander CARDOSI. Dennis Garcia, it gives me great pleasure to present to you the Disabled American Veterans National Commander's Award that is presented to the Outstanding Large Employer of the Year, Research Management Corporation, Virginia Beach, Virginia, July 30th, 1990, for conspicuous and meritorious effort in providing employment opportunities for disabled veterans; further, that such constant and noteworthy efforts will serve as an inspiration and challenge to other employees.

Congratulations. Signed by Vernon Cardosi, national commander, and Charles E. Joeckel, national adjutant. Congratulations, sir. [Applause.]

Mr. DENNIS GARCIA. Commander, delegates, ladies and gentlemen: On behalf of Research Management Corporation, I would like to thank the DAV for recognizing RMC as Large Employer of the Year. RMC recognizes the contribution that these men and women have made to this country, and in turn the spirit of commitment of these disabled veterans has directly contributed to the success of our business.

RMC is proud to support the DAV in its efforts to serve our nation's disabled veterans and also veterans, and we will continue to do so. Thank you very much. [Applause.]

Mr. DRACH. Our last award today is the Small Employer of the Year, and I want to tell you something, just a little side story about this individual. When he found out he'd won the award, he—it is a very, very small company—he indicated that if he had to walk here to receive the award, he would do so.

This year's winner of the National Commander's Award in the small employer category was nominated by the 1987 winner of the DVOP Award.

Our honoree is not only a small business, it is a new small business, having been established just a little more than one year ago. The company was founded by a disabled veteran who decided there was a need for a truck and automobile tire recycling business. He obtained the property and contacted the Job Service of Iowa for one truck driver and one laborer. Those first two employees were veterans. Since then, seven more employees have been added. He has specified that he is willing to interview any veteran that might be a good candidate. He does all of his recruiting through the DVOP. Six of his nine employees are veterans, and three of them are disabled veterans. It is this type of attitude and cooperation with the Job Service that results in quality job placement for our nation's veterans.

We are very pleased to recognize the Small Employer of the Year, Midwest Tire Disposal Service, and here to accept the award is the founder and owner of the company, Mr. Don Ervine. [Applause.]

Commander **CARDOSI**. I have fond memories of Fort Dodge, Iowa. That was one of the first conventions I attended. Had a wonderful time.

The Disabled American Veterans National Commander's Award is presented to the Outstanding Small Employer of the Year, Midwest Tire Disposal Service, Fort Dodge, Iowa, July 30th, 1990, for conspicuous and meritorious efforts in providing employment opportunities for disabled veterans; further, that such constant and noteworthy efforts will serve as an inspiration and challenge to other employers. And it's signed by Vernon Cardosi, national commander, and Charles E. Joeckel, national adjutant. Congratulations. [Applause.]

Mr. **DON ERVINE**. I think without a doubt, you're probably looking at the happiest guy on the face of the earth today. I want to thank the national commander and the staff in Washington, state level, and above all, Ray Auld, our local Job Service DAV representative there. I know a lot of you here know Ray, but for those of you that don't, Ray epitomizes probably every Job Service representative in the United States, because Ray works hard with his veterans, and that's what he calls them. They're his veterans. He never says, "veterans," but "my veterans," when you talk to Ray. And Ray's done a good job out there. He works hard for the veterans.

And I'll tell you a little story about hiring veterans. They put the title on me as "employer." Well, it's kind of a misnomer in our business, because we all, in our company, work as a team. In fact, sometimes I wonder who's working for who. But we have a lot of fun. The guys work hard, and we just put in a good day's work and get things done.

The veterans that we have, you can't ask for better people, more loyal people to work for you. We've had our ups and downs. It's a small business. There's been weeks that we went without checks. But the guys stuck through it, thick and thin. And that's the kind of people you get when you hire veterans and disabled veterans.

Thank you. [Applause.]

Commander **CARDOSI**. Thank you, Ron Drach, and thank you, employers.

Memorials are important to us, because they remind us of the sacrifices American veterans have made. Past National Commander Dennis Joyner has helped us especially become mindful of these sacrifices through the DAV Vietnam Veterans Memorial, of which he has done an outstanding job as president of the Board of Directors.

I am proud to turn over the podium to you, Dennis, for a report on our DAV Memorial in New Mexico.

Past National Commander **DENNIS JOYNER**. Thank you, Commander. [Applause.] Thank you, Commander Cardosi. It's always a pleasure to appear before the delegates attending the DAV National Convention to tell them what's been happening during the past year at the DAV Vietnam Veterans National Memorial in Angel

Fire, New Mexico, and I'm happy to tell you that much has been happening.

For example, we have seen all previous attendance records fall by the wayside. Throngs of visitors have come, not only from all over the North American continent, but also from England, Switzerland, Germany, Australia, Italy, and other parts of the world. And all are touched by this unique national shrine which has come to represent a special place in the hearts of veterans of all wars, their families and their survivors.

Among our special visitors were more than 50 Medal of Honor winners. Other distinguished guests included General William C. Westmoreland.

Special programs and activities have been developed for schoolchildren. A newsletter is now being published three times a year for distribution to all our contributors, to DAV departments and to DAV chapters.

The memorial was featured on a Memorial Day television program that was aired nationwide by nearly 170 Public Broadcast stations and worldwide by the Armed Forces Network.

Numerous special events have been staged, including a marathon bicycle race and a walk-a-thon. And all of these activities have resulted in greatly increased public awareness and financial support.

During our recent Board of Directors meeting, Bob Lenham, who most of you know as a dedicated National DAV staff member, was appointed to serve as full-time executive director at the memorial, and Nancy O'Brien, director of the DAV's charitable programs, was named to the memorial's Board of Directors.

Most importantly, we completed a new documentary film which you will have an opportunity to see in just a few minutes. But before we screen this new production, I want to assure you that we will welcome any and all gifts from chapters, departments and individual members immediately following that film. You have always been generous in the past, and I hope that the same pattern will be followed again this afternoon.

Thank you for your wholehearted support of the DAV Vietnam Veterans National Memorial. It is your memorial, your gift to a grateful nation.

Commander, that completes my report to the 1990 National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans. Thank you, and I'd like to show the film.

[Film presentation.]

Past Commander JOYNER. Thank you very much. It's a very moving documentary, I'm sure of that. I know this is unknown to her, but someone that was in this film and played a great part and sang and wrote that song is here in the audience with us today, and that is Georgeanne Adams. Georgeanne, if you would, I'd like you to come up to the podium, please. [Applause.]

Commander CARDOSI. While Georgeanne is coming up to the podium, the Chair will now entertain a motion to accept Denny Joyner's fine report.

Past National Commander ALBERT H. LINDEN, Jr. Mike 3. Al Linden, delegate, Gator Number 90 of Florida, moves the acceptance of the president's report.

Commander CARDOSI. Is there a second?

Mr. **Alvarez**. Mike 3. William Alvarez, Department of New York, Chapter 23, seconds the motion. Thank you.

Commander **Cardosi**. It's been moved and seconded to accept Denny Joyner's report of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. All those in favor, signify by saying Aye; opposed. So ordered. Thank you very much.

And now, if anybody would like to come up and make any donations, Denny Joyner will be here for a few moments. Please come on up.

Past Commander **Joyner**. Now, this year it's a little special. In the past, you just had me to face. Now this year you have Georgeanne with me, so she'll help me.

Member. Denny, on behalf of the Department of California, over 100,000 members strong, I'd like to present the memorial with this check for $500.

Past Commander **Joyner**. Thank you very much. [Applause.]

Member. On behalf of the Department of New Mexico, I would like to present this check for $1,000.

Past Commander **Joyner**. Thank you very much. [Applause.]

Member. Denny, on behalf of the 17,000 members of the Department of Colorado and its officers, I'd like to present to you a check for $5,000.

Past Commander **Joyner**. Thank you very much, John. [Applause.] You've always been very supportive. We appreciate it.

Member. Past National Commander Dennis Joyner, I've got some taxes I'm going to pay here. Congress isn't going to get this tax. National Commander, this also—Congress isn't going to get this tax. Here's 66 cents for taxes, pay my taxes first. And on top of that is a donation of $66. That's Iowa. Will you accept this?

Past Commander **Joyner**. I'll accept it. I'm looking forward to the year we get to a hundred. You've got many years to go.

Member [Counting out money]. Sixty-six.

Past Commander **Joyner**. Thank you very much. [Applause.]

Member. Commander Joyner, on behalf of the Department of Oklahoma, I'd like to present to you this check for $250, a small contribution, but we want to help.

Past Commander **Joyner**. Thank you very much. We appreciate it. [Applause.]

Member. Dennis, Chapter 115, Saugus, Massachusetts, home of the national commander, we would like to present a check for a hundred dollars.

Past Commander **Joyner**. Thank you very much. [Applause.]

Mr. **Paul**. Dennis, this is John Paul, commander of Chapter 93 in Florida, Corporal Lewis C. Gulley. We'd like to present you with a check for a hundred dollars for the Vietnam Memorial.

Past Commander **Joyner**. Thank you very much. [Applause.]

Member. On behalf of California Tri-Cities Chapter 95, I present this check for $100.

Past Commander **Joyner**. Thank you very much. I appreciate it. [Applause.]

Member. Metropolitan Chapter Number 49, Disabled American Veterans, West New York, New Jersey, is donating $500, and the adjutant is coming now with the check.

Past Commander **Joyner**. Thank you. [Applause.]

Member. Dennis, in behalf of Azusa Chapter 64, California, a check for a hundred dollars.

Past Commander Joyner. Thank you very much. [Applause.]

Member. On behalf of Chapter Number 1, Minneapolis, we'd like to donate $100.

Past Commander Joyner. Thank you very much. Appreciate that. [Applause.]

Commander, I'd also just like to take one final second and—I know we have two young ladies that are here today on behalf of the memorial, and I'd like to just introduce them, if they would stand: Billie Gillen, who is the secretary for the last year or so and is going to be leaving us in a month, and Linda Vaughan, who will be now working out there with Mr. Lenham. So if they would stand up. They're sitting right over here. I'd thank them for all their work for us. [Applause.]

Thank you very much, Commander.

Commander Cardosi. Oh, more coming. Donations are always in order.

Ms. Fields. My name is Noble Fields, commander of Chapter 144, Disabled American Veterans in San Francisco, and on behalf of my organization and the DAV, I'd like to give this $500 check for whatever it is. [Laughter and applause.]

Past Commander Joyner. Well, thank you. It's for the DAV Vietnam Veterans National Memorial. Thank you.

I thank all of you for your support this year and your support over the past years. Thank again. Thank you, Commander, for the time.

Commander Cardosi. Thank you, Denny, for that fine report. And Denny will be around the hall. Believe me, you'll find Denny. Any donations will be gladly accepted. Thank you again, Denny, for that fine report.

And now I'd like to introduce a man who I've known for a good many years, and I've come to admire this man. He's a hard, dedicated, working man. You know, he's from California. You know, California, we are so proud of California, they reached that hundred thousand membership. And I bet you, bottom dollar, that this man had a lot to do with that membership drive.

I'd like to introduce now, and it gives me great pleasure, Donald J. Pouliot, chairman of the National Finance Committee, for his report. Don. [Applause.]

NEC Pouliot. National Commander Cardosi, National Adjutant Joeckel, distinguished guests and members of the Disabled American Veterans: I would like to begin my report by introducing the other members of the National Finance Committee. They are: Roger Andal of South Dakota; Nicholas Marro of Pennsylvania; Gary Glassburn of Ohio; and our own national commander, Vernon Cardosi of Massachusetts.

I am particularly pleased to report to you that 1989 was another great financial year for the Disabled American Veterans. Total support and revenue for 1989 was $60,595,009, an increase of $3,911,444 over 1988.

During 1989, our organization spent $49,257,537 in support of our service programs. This represents 81.3 percent of total revenues received.

In 1989, $853,302 in emergency relief grants was given to 3,870 needy applicants. A total of $10,290,543 has been granted to 57,744 relief fund applicants across the country by our national service officers since the inception of the program in January 1973.

In 1989, the total amount granted from the Disaster Fund was $399,145 for a total of $2,431,677 in disaster assistance to 4,703 applicants since 1968.

$629,383 was awarded to 218 students in 1989 and $6,857,628 in college scholarships has been awarded from the Scholarship Fund to deserving children of service-connected disabled veterans since the inception of the program in 1968.

In order to carry out our responsibilities to the nation's disabled veterans and their families, we have a paid staff of 278 national service officers, including 21 trainees, as of June 26, 1990. In the year ended December 31, 1989, DAV national service officers interviewed 227,404 veterans and members of their families submitting nearly 208,000 claims, and secured $1.3 billion—billion, not million—billion in new and retroactive benefits. This is possible because of the generosity of the American public who support our programs with their contributions.

The National Finance Committee during 1989 approved an appropriation of $1 million to the Scholarship Fund and half a million dollars to the Disaster Relief Fund.

The vitality and stability of our great organization was again evident when the National Finance Committee considered the proposed budget for 1990, which provided for continuing growth of the DAV service programs by allocating more than $46.7 million to service costs and expenses in 1990. This is an increase of $6.7 million over the 1989 budget.

In addition, I am pleased to report that the Life Membership Fund balance as of December 31, 1989 was $88,973,902, an increase of $6,377,072 over 1988, and that the number of life memberships increased during this period from 770,003 to 869,813.

As I stated earlier in my report, 1989 was another record financial year for the Disabled American Veterans. The Unrestricted Operating and Designated Funds totaled $62,589,646, and for the same period the expenditures for the program services totaled $49,257,537.

You can be proud of the achievements of the national organization under the guidance of our national adjutant, Charles E. Joeckel, Jr., and we would like to commend him and his staff for the support and cooperation they rendered to this committee during the past year.

With the outstanding leadership, assistance and support we received from Butch and his staff, it was sincerely a special privilege and pleasure for us to serve on the National Finance Committee. Thank you very much. [Applause.]

Commander CARDOSI. The Chair will now entertain a motion. Mike 3.

Mr. WIEDEMAN. Mr. Chairman, I'm John Wiedeman, delegate from Greeley, Colorado, Greeley Chapter Number 8. I'd like to make a motion to accept the Finance Committee report.

Commander CARDOSI. We have a motion. Is there a second to the motion? Mike 2.

Mr. **Trella**. Rick Trella, Chapter 67, New Jersey, second the motion.

Commander **Cardosi**. You've heard the motion. Is there any discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor, signify by saying Aye. Are there any opposed? The Ayes have it, and so ordered.

Thank you very much for that fine report. [Applause.]

[The above-mentioned reports follow:]

**Deloitte &
Touche**

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Financial Statements for the Year
Ended December 31, 1989 and
Independent Auditors' Report

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

National Finance Committee
Disabled American Veterans
National Headquarters:

We have audited the accompanying balance sheet of Disabled American Veterans National Headquarters as of December 31, 1989, and the related statements of support, revenue and expenses and changes in fund balances and of functional expenses for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Organization's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, such financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Organization at December 31, 1989 and the results of its operations for the year then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

We have previously audited, in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, the financial statements of Disabled American Veterans National Headquarters as of December 31, 1988 and for the year then ended; and in our report dated March 10, 1989, we expressed an unqualified opinion on those financial statements. In our opinion, the information set forth in the accompanying financial statements as of December 31, 1988 is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements from which it has been derived.

Deloitte + Touche

March 2, 1990

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

EXHIBIT A

BALANCE SHEET,
DECEMBER 31, 1989 WITH COMPARATIVE TOTALS FOR 1988

ASSETS	1989	1988
UNRESTRICTED OPERATING AND DESIGNATED FUNDS:		
ASSETS:		
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 2,472,099	$ 5,415,735
Investments in securities - at cost (Note 2)	44,548,164	48,487,393
Accounts receivable	1,160,430	1,061,134
Interest and dividends receivable	1,377,533	1,220,871
Inventories (Note 2)	2,668,047	2,845,607
Prepaid expenses	2,315,473	1,174,607
Prepaid pension expense		139,634
Refund of taxes (Note 9)	8,047,900	8,047,900
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED OPERATING AND DESIGNATED FUNDS	$62,589,646	$68,392,881
FIXED ASSETS FUND (Note 2) - Land, buildings and equipment (less accumulated depreciation: 1989, $6,744,160; 1988, $7,055,610)	$ 9,408,833	$ 9,470,186
RESTRICTED LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND (Note 4):		
Cash	$ 3,137,527	$ 3,208,199
Interest and dividends receivable	1,875,859	1,678,612
Investments in securities - at cost (Note 2)	83,960,516	77,710,019
TOTAL RESTRICTED LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND	$88,973,902	$82,596,830

See notes to financial statements.

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	1989	1988
UNRESTRICTED OPERATING AND DESIGNATED FUNDS:		
LIABILITIES:		
Accounts payable	$ 2,201,303	$ 1,444,431
Accrued expenses:		
Salaries	469,741	418,109
Vacation pay and sick pay	11,656,124	10,756,015
Pension (Note 5)	233,428	
Other	16,202	22,872
Deferred dues and service fees collected in advance	2,822,417	2,986,167
Total liabilities	17,399,215	15,627,594
Operating and designated fund balances:		
Undesignated operating fund available for general activities	43,508,643	50,720,678
Funds designated by the National Finance Committee (Note 3):		
Scholarships	718,541	347,924
Emergency relief	367,979	1,156,517
Disaster relief	595,268	540,168
Total	45,190,431	52,765,287
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED OPERATING AND DESIGNATED FUNDS	$62,589,646	$68,392,881
FIXED ASSETS FUND - Balance	$ 9,408,833	$ 9,470,186
RESTRICTED LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND:		
Accounts payable	$ 61,160	$ 68,974
Reserve for future distribution of membership dues (Note 4)	88,912,742	82,527,856
TOTAL RESTRICTED LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND	$88,973,902	$82,596,830

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

EXHIBIT B

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT, REVENUE AND EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1989
WITH COMPARATIVE TOTALS FOR 1988

	UNRESTRICTED OPERATING AND DESIGNATED FUNDS	FIXED ASSETS FUND	.....TOTAL ALL FUNDS..... 1989	1988
SUPPORT AND REVENUE:				
Support:				
Contributions and revenue received from direct mail solicitations, etc.	$46,601,577		$46,601,577	$43,558,945
List royalties	1,638,562		1,638,562	1,745,348
Donations and bequests	949,617		949,617	738,503
Total support	49,189,756		49,189,756	46,042,796
Revenue:				
Membership dues and fees (Note 4)	5,992,948		5,992,948	5,625,817
Income from investments (principally interest)	4,726,644		4,726,644	5,229,332
Gain (loss) on sale of investments	611,339		611,339	(527,184)
Sale of emblems, etc., less related direct costs (1989, $1,209,096; 1988, $1,225,241)	72,911		72,911	294,556
Miscellaneous	64,313	$ (62,902)	1,411	18,248
Total revenue	11,468,155	(62,902)	11,405,253	10,640,769
Total support and revenue	60,657,911	(62,902)	60,595,009	56,683,565
EXPENSES (Exhibit C):				
Program services:				
Services to veterans and dependents	32,253,304	573,405	32,826,709	30,095,882
Publications and other communications	4,339,368	36,311	4,375,679	3,998,711
Membership services	5,650,205	28,173	5,678,378	5,467,708
Public awareness	5,900,525		5,900,525	2,648,738
Legislative Service	476,051	195	476,246	682,217
Total program services	48,619,453	638,084	49,257,537	42,893,256
Supporting services:				
Fund raising costs	15,033,950	189,147	15,223,097	13,947,948
Administrative and general expenses	3,410,133	340,451	3,750,584	3,826,592
Total supporting services	18,444,083	529,598	18,973,681	17,774,540
Total expenses	67,063,536	1,167,682	68,231,218	60,667,796
EXCESS OF EXPENSES OVER PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE	(6,405,625)	(1,230,584)	$(7,636,209)	$(3,984,231)
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING OF YEAR	52,765,287	9,470,186		
OTHER CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE - Fixed assets purchased by Unrestricted Operating Fund - net of retirements	(1,169,231)	1,169,231		
FUND BALANCE, END OF YEAR	$45,190,431	$9,408,833		

See notes to financial statements.

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

EXHIBIT C

STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1989
WITH COMPARATIVE TOTALS FOR 1988

	PROGRAM SERVICES						SUPPORTING SERVICES			TOTAL EXPENSES	
	SERVICES TO VETERANS AND DEPENDENTS	PUBLICATIONS AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS	MEMBERSHIP SERVICES	PUBLIC AWARENESS	LEGISLATIVE SERVICE	TOTAL	FUND RAISING COSTS	ADMINISTRATIVE AND GENERAL EXPENSES	TOTAL	1989	1988
Salaries	$15,582,715	$ 369,163	$ 745,508		$277,495	$16,974,881	$ 3,408,939	$3,053,587	$ 6,462,526	$23,437,407	$21,991,560
Employee benefits (Note 5)	5,646,047	111,911	262,297		85,242	6,105,497	2,135,028	1,725,190	3,860,218	9,965,715	8,360,709
Disbursements for transportation, scholarship, disaster, OVAP and relief purposes, etc	2,952,637					2,952,637				2,952,637	3,391,693
Expenses of National Convention			506,455			506,455				506,455	473,920
Expenses of National Commander and Staff			323,731			323,731				323,731	312,401
Payroll taxes	1,138,324	23,013	65,850		12,832	1,240,019	541,187	282,576	823,763	2,063,782	1,973,971
Travel expenses - Field Service Units and others	1,204,480	43,614	5,444		37,831	1,291,369	10,085	440,869	450,954	1,742,323	1,634,339
Postage	402,830	1,230,812	706,480		2,639	2,342,761	2,683,382	46,082	2,729,464	5,072,225	4,628,752
Rental of space and equipment	41,320					41,320	9,467	89,273	98,740	140,060	122,600
Supplies	675,735	288,602	1,144,287		13,865	2,122,489	120,989	231,332	352,321	2,474,810	1,083,585
Relocation of personnel	220,099	11,354				231,453	20,456	3,461	23,917	255,370	139,245
Insurance	118,077	312	312		445	119,146	29,141	123,006	152,147	271,293	248,881
Telephone and telegraph	126,543	1,780	3,204			131,527	8,545	56,366	64,911	196,438	188,465
Maintenance and repairs	199,918	46,396	10,468			256,782	187,799	183,889	371,688	628,470	642,942
Express and hauling	64,503	9,452	3,992			77,947	73,148	17,655	90,803	168,750	147,606
Outside service	18,246	2,070	74,144			94,460	100	2,643	2,743	97,203	15,366
Project cost	308,275	71,326	16,252		30,446	426,299				426,299	1,408,532
Printing of magazine		2,047,898				2,047,898				2,047,898	2,024,048
Cost of solicitation mailings - materials							10,737,847		10,737,847	10,737,847	7,588,230
Awards	37,994		169,134			207,128		102	102	207,230	129,092
Heat, light, water, and power	86,632					86,632	310,106		310,106	396,738	383,080
Security service	61,477					61,477	163,858		163,858	225,335	227,965
Professional fees	1,229,540	20,000				1,249,540		750,844	750,844	2,000,384	1,669,311
Dues and subscriptions	7,716	3,322			15,256	26,294	583	43,159	43,742	70,036	87,818
Allocations (to) from other departments	1,972,929		1,597,813	$5,900,525		9,471,267	(5,682,435)	(3,788,832)	(9,471,267)		
Saleable items shipping costs							(31,665)		(31,665)	(31,665)	(29,238)
Other	157,267	58,343	14,834			230,444	307,390	148,931	456,321	686,765	676,159
Total expenses before depreciation	32,253,304	4,339,368	5,650,205	5,900,525	476,051	48,619,453	15,033,950	3,410,133	18,444,083	67,063,536	59,521,032
Depreciation of fixed assets (Note 2)	573,405	36,311	28,173		195	638,084	189,147	340,451	529,598	1,167,682	1,146,764
TOTAL, YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1989	$32,826,709	$4,375,679	$5,678,378	$5,900,525	$476,246	$49,257,537	$15,223,097	$3,750,584	$18,973,681	$68,231,218	
TOTAL, YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1988	$30,095,882	$3,998,711	$5,467,708	$2,648,738	$682,217	$42,893,256	$13,947,948	$3,826,592	$17,774,540		$60,667,796

See notes to financial statements.

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 1989

1. ORGANIZATION

The Disabled American Veterans (DAV) is a Congressionally Chartered, not-for-profit service organization specifically organized to provide for the rehabilitation and continuing welfare of the Nation's disabled veterans, their families, dependents, and survivors. DAV's principle program service activities are:

- maintenance of national service officers in all Departments of Veterans Affairs Regional and Contact Offices to assist veterans in obtaining benefits to which they are entitled under law;
- identification of veterans eligible for assistance and referral of such veterans to DAV national service officers;
- publication of a monthly magazine and other communications for disabled veterans, in order to provide information regarding veterans' benefits and social activities;
- coordination of DAV's state departments and local membership chapters which provide similar service activities, as well as a social environment to aid the veteran in personal and social development; and
- maintenance of special and needs-based programs for emergency relief, disaster relief and scholarships to disabled veterans and their dependents.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Financial Statements - The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis.

Salaries Expense - The salaries expense in the accompanying financial statements includes the cost of all national service officers and their support staff who work directly with veterans and their dependents in providing counselling and assistance in obtaining benefits and services. This expense also includes the Organization's administrative and support staffs.

Inventories - Inventories, stated at the lower of cost (principally on the first-in, first-out basis) or market, are as follows at December 31, 1989:

Materials and supplies........................	$ 987,611
Solicitation materials........................	1,680,436
Total...	$2,668,047

Investments in Securities - Investments in securities, consisting of treasury notes, investment contracts and government and corporate bonds, are recorded at cost unless management judges that there has been a permanent impairment in value. The cost of securities sold is based on specific identification of each security at the time of sale.

The approximate cost and market value of investments in securities and the net unrealized losses at December 31, 1989 are summarized below:

	Cost	Market Value	Net Unrealized Losses
Unrestricted Operating and Designated Funds.......	$ 44,548,164	$ 44,058,605	$489,559
Restricted Life Member-Ship Fund...	83,960,516	83,565,694	394,822
Total.........	$128,508,680	$127,624,299	$884,381

Fixed Assets Fund - Fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation, and are comprised of the following at December 31, 1989:

	Cost	Accumulated Depreciation	Net Book Value
Land and improvements....	$ 898,182	$ 291,348	$ 606,834
Buildings and improvements....	7,937,076	2,387,648	5,549,428
Machinery and other equipment.	7,317,735	4,065,164	3,252,571
Total............	$16,152,993	$6,744,160	$9,408,833

Depreciation is computed generally on the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of assets which range from 3 to 50 years.

Income Taxes - As a not-for-profit service organization, the DAV is exempt from Federal income tax as a 501C(4) organization.

Allocation of Joint Costs - In 1989, the Organization incurred joint costs of $19,668,417 for informational materials and activities that included fund-raising appeals. Of those costs, $5,900,525 was allocated to public awareness (program services) and $13,767,892 was allocated to fund raising costs.

Reclassifications - Certain amounts in the 1988 financial information have been reclassified to conform with the 1989 presentation.

3. DESIGNATED FUNDS

Certain unrestricted funds have been designated by the National Finance Committee for the following purposes:

Scholarships - For financial assistance to children of disabled veterans who qualify scholastically and are in need of financial aid.

Emergency Relief - For financial assistance to disabled veterans for emergency health and welfare reasons.

Disaster Relief - For assistance to disabled veterans and their families who have suffered losses resulting from natural disasters.

4. RESTRICTED LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND

Under the bylaws of the DAV, life membership in the Organization is available and amounts so paid are required to be placed in a separate life membership fund and invested; the only allowable withdrawals from the fund are amounts required to pay chapter, state and national per capita dues for life members. Life membership receipts are deferred and recognized as income in the operating fund at the time such dues are transferred to the operating fund from the life membership fund, in accordance with the bylaws.

The following summary represents the changes during 1989 in the reserve for future distribution of membership dues:

Balance, January 1, 1989	$82,527,856
Additions:	
Membership dues received	5,846,576
Earnings on invested fund assets	7,464,480
Gain on sale of investments	1,150,186
Total	96,989,098
Distribution of membership dues:	
National Headquarters - Unrestricted Operating and Designated Funds	4,624,741
Local Chapters	2,115,432
States	1,336,183
Total	8,076,356
Balance, December 31, 1989	$88,912,742

5. PENSION PLAN AND POST RETIREMENT BENEFITS

The Organization has a defined benefit pension plan covering substantially all of its employees. The benefits are based on years of service and the employee's compensation during the last three years of employment. Contributions are intended to provide not only for benefits attributed to service to date but also for those expected in the future.

At December 31, 1989 the plan's accumulated benefit obligation, including vested benefits of $41,391,997, was $43,699,884.

The following table sets forth the plan's funded status and amounts recognized in the Organization's balance sheet as of December 31, 1989:

Actuarial present value of benefit obligations:

Projected benefit obligation	$71,753,316
Plan assets at fair value	65,337,055
Projected benefit obligation in excess of assets	(6,416,261)
Unrecognized transition obligation	159,538
Unrecognized net loss	6,023,295
Pension liability	$ (233,428)

Net pension cost for 1989, included as employee benefits expense in the accompanying statement of functional expenses, included the following components:

Service cost	$4,267,577
Interest cost	5,037,407
Actual return on plan assets	(7,405,289)
Net amortization and deferral	2,673,367
Net periodic pension cost	$4,573,062

The interest rate used in determining the actuarial present value of the projected benefit obligation was 8%. The rate of increase in future compensation levels was assumed to be 7%. The expected long-term rate of return on assets was assumed to be 8%.

DAV also maintains a defined contribution Salary Savings and Investment Plan for its employees. For qualified employees electing to participate in the Plan, DAV contributes 5% of the employees' base salary. DAV's contributions in 1989 were approximately $881,600 and are included as employee benefits expense in the accompanying statement of functional expenses.

In addition to providing pension benefits, the Organization provides certain health care and life insurance benefits for its retired employees and their spouses. Substantially all of the Organization's employees may become eligible for those benefits if they reach normal retirement age while working for the Organization. Those and similar benefits for active employees are provided through an insurance company whose premiums are based on the benefits paid during the year. The Organization recognizes the cost of providing those benefits to qualified retirees and their spouses by expensing the annual insurance premiums, which were approximately $561,851 for 1989 and are included as employee benefits in administrative and general expenses in the accompanying statement of functional expenses.

6. DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS NATIONAL SERVICE FOUNDATION

The balance sheet does not include the net assets of the Disabled American Veterans National Service Foundation which are held in trust by the Foundation and available to the National Organization only by appropriation or dissolution of the Foundation. The National Service Foundation is a separate entity from the DAV, operating under its own bylaws. Based upon financial information (unaudited) at December 31, 1989, net assets of the Foundation were approximately $5,747,000.

7. DAV VIETNAM VETERANS NATIONAL MEMORIAL, INC.

The DAV Vietnam Veterans National Memorial, Inc. ("Memorial") was organized to maintain a national memorial to veterans of the Vietnam war. The Memorial is a separate entity from the DAV, operating under its own bylaws. During 1989 DAV provided the Memorial with computer and accounting services for which no compensation was received.

8. DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS CHARITABLE SERVICE TRUST

Disabled American Veterans Charitable Service Trust (Trust) was established in 1986. The Trust is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt entity which receives most of its contributions from the Combined Federal Campaign. The Trust is a separate entity from the DAV, operating under its own bylaws. During 1989, DAV provided the Trust with administrative and accounting services for which no compensation was received.

9. REFUND OF TAXES

In 1987, the Internal Revenue Service, as a result of its examination of the years 1974 through 1985 for unrelated business income, assessed DAV taxes in the amount of $4,099,653 and interest through December 1, 1987 of $3,948,247. DAV believed there was no tax liability, but as a procedural matter, paid the assessments plus interest and filed a petition in the U.S. Tax Court for recovery of amounts paid plus interest.

On February 26, 1990, the U.S. Tax Court ruled in favor of the DAV and determined that no tax liability existed for unrelated business income. Under the ruling DAV is entitled to a refund of substantially all of the amounts paid in 1987, with interest, to the date of payment. However, since the case is subject to appeal by the Internal Revenue Service no interest income has been recorded pending the appeals process.

**Deloitte &
Touche**

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS AUXILIARY

Financial Statements for the Year
Ended December 31, 1989 and
Independent Auditors' Report

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

National Finance Committee,
Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary:

We have audited the accompanying balance sheet of Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary as of December 31, 1989 and the related statements of revenues, expenses and changes in fund balance and of cash flows. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Organization's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, such financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary at December 31, 1989 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

We have previously audited, in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, the financial statements of Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary as of December 31, 1988 and for the year then ended; and in our report dated March 17, 1989, we expressed an unqualified opinion on those financial statements. In our opinion, the information set forth in the accompanying financial statements as of December 31, 1988 is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements from which it has been derived.

Deloitte & Touche

March 29, 1990

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS AUXILIARY
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

BALANCE SHEET, DECEMBER 31, 1989 WITH COMPARATIVE TOTALS FOR 1988

ASSETS	NOTES	1989	1988
UNRESTRICTED OPERATING AND DESIGNATED FUNDS			
Cash and cash equivalents		$2,014,475	$1,357,091
Accounts receivable		483	402
Materials and supplies - at cost (specific identification)		126,977	114,233
Prepaid expenses		247,382	3,578
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED OPERATING AND DESIGNATED FUNDS		$2,389,317	$1,475,304
RESTRICTED FUNDS (NOTE 4)			
LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND:			
Investments in securities - at cost (approximate market value: 1989, $4,678,196; 1988, $4,199,000)	2	$4,656,323	$4,255,724
Accounts receivable:			
Operating Fund		1,146,387	639,690
Other		112,967	111,949
Total Life Membership Fund		5,915,677	5,007,363
EDUCATION LOAN FUND:			
Cash and cash equivalents(includes money market certificates: 1989, $285,605; 1988, $212,203)		313,367	305,118
Accounts receivable - Operating Fund		76,371	41,176
Notes receivable (less allowance for doubtful notes of $7,600 in each year)		227,405	214,752
Total Education Loan Fund		617,143	561,046
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS		$6,532,820	$5,568,409

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	NOTES	1989	1988
Liabilities:			
Accounts payable:			
National Headquarters, DAV		$ 208,885	$ 93,087
Life Membership Fund		1,146,387	639,690
Education Loan Fund		76,371	41,176
Other		16,097	19,659
Total accounts payable		1,447,740	793,612
Accrued vacation and sick leave pay		110,498	93,034
Deferred membership fees	2	757,124	509,577
Total liabilities		2,315,362	1,396,223
FUND BALANCE - Unrestricted operating and designated funds:			
Unrestricted operating fund available for general activities		42,406	51,961
Funds designated by the National Finance Committee:	3		
Carville Fund		21,949	17,700
Freedom Foundation		9,600	9,420
Total fund balance		73,955	79,081
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED OPERATING AND DESIGNATED FUNDS		$2,389,317	$1,475,304
LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND - Reserve for future distribution of dues		$5,915,677	$5,007,363
Total Life Membership Fund		5,915,677	5,007,363
EDUCATION LOAN FUND - Fund balance		617,143	561,046
Total Education Loan Fund		617,143	561,046
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS		$6,532,820	$5,568,409

See notes to financial statements.

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS AUXILIARY
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1989 WITH COMPARATIVE TOTALS FOR 1988

	NOTES	UNRESTRICTED OPERATING AND DESIGNATED FUNDS	RESTRICTED FUND - EDUCATION LOAN FUND	....TOTAL ALL FUNDS.... 1989	1988
REVENUES:					
Membership fees and mandates		$ 766,241	$ 10,195	$ 776,436	$ 507,963
Life membership dues	4	319,675		319,675	272,070
Contributions		8,868	25,929	34,797	1,207
Sale of emblems, etc., less related direct cost - $64,172 in 1989 and $45,667 in 1988		(11,454)		(11,454)	12,110
Interest income		121,874	22,361	144,235	78,525
Other		20,089		20,089	11,366
Total revenues		1,225,293	58,485	1,283,778	883,241
EXPENSES:					
Salaries and wages		304,225		304,225	271,161
Payroll taxes		29,455		29,455	28,113
Conferences and meetings		36,245	2,388	38,633	32,062
Expenses of National Convention		24,592		24,592	36,417
Printing, stationery and office supplies		86,185		86,185	40,013
Expenses of National Commander and officers		11,121		11,121	6,394
Employee benefits	5	121,094		121,094	110,062
Postage		77,736		77,736	68,764
Travel		34,358		34,358	31,283
Professional fees		10,900		10,900	10,500
VAVS, memberships and other awards		38,100		38,100	26,127
Solicitation materials		425,606		425,606	357,543
Other		30,802		30,802	26,063
Total expenses		1,230,419	2,388	$1,232,807	$1,044,502
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES (EXPENSES OVER REVENUES)		(5,126)	56,097	$ 50,971	$ (161,261)
FUND BALANCE, BEGINNING OF YEAR		79,081	561,046		
FUND BALANCE, END OF YEAR		$ 73,955	$617,143		

See notes to financial statements.

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS AUXILIARY
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1989 WITH COMPARATIVE TOTALS FOR 1988

	UNRESTRICTED OPERATING AND DESIGNATED FUNDS	...RESTRICTED FUNDS..		....TOTAL ALL FUNDS....	
		LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND	EDUCATION LOAN FUND	1989	1988
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:					
Excess of revenues over expenses (expenses over revenues)	$ (5,126)		$ 56,097	$ 50,971	$ (161,261)
Change in assets and liabilities:					
Increase in accounts receivable	(81)	$ (507,715)	(35,195)	(542,991)	(286,138)
(Increase) decrease in prepaid expenses	(243,804)			(243,804)	517
Increase in notes receivable - net			(12,653)	(12,653)	(14,141)
(Increase) decrease in materials and supplies	(12,744)			(12,744)	36,006
Increase in accounts payable	671,592			671,592	182,058
Increase in deferred membership fees	247,547			247,547	201,891
Increase in reserve for future distribution of dues		908,314		908,314	659,523
Total adjustments	662,510	400,599	(47,848)	1,015,261	779,716
Net cash provided by operations	657,384	400,599	8,249	1,066,232	618,455
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:					
Purchase of securities		(1,883,429)		(1,883,429)	(366,381)
Sale of securities		1,482,830		1,482,830	
Net cash used for investing activities		(400,599)		(400,599)	(366,381)
NET INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	657,384		8,249	665,633	252,074
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS:					
Beginning of year	1,357,091		305,118	1,662,209	1,410,135
End of year	$2,014,475	$ -0-	$313,367	$2,327,842	$1,662,209

See notes to financial statements.

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS AUXILIARY
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 1989

1. ORGANIZATION

The Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary (DAV Auxiliary) is a not-for-profit service organization organized under the provisions of the National Constitution of the Disabled American Veterans. The DAV Auxiliary is organized for the betterment and improvement of the nation's disabled veterans and their families and for cooperation with all patriotic organizations and public agencies devoted to this purpose.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Financial Statements - The accompanying financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the principles contained in the Audits of Certain Nonprofit Organizations Guide published by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Investments - Investments in securities are recorded at cost unless management judges that there has been a permanent impairment in value. Gains and losses resulting from the sale of securities are recognized at the time of disposition and are computed using the specific identification method.

Cash and Cash Equivalents - For the purpose of reporting cash flows, the organization considers all highly liquid debt instruments purchased with a maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

Deferred Membership Fees - The DAV Auxiliary accounts for membership fees by deferring fees received in advance of the membership year (July 1 to June 30) and amortizing them to income ratably during the membership year for which they are paid.

3. DESIGNATED FUNDS

The DAV Auxiliary National Finance Committee has designated certain unrestricted funds for the following purposes:

Carville Fund - For the benefit of persons afflicted with Hansen's Disease being treated at the U. S. Public Health Service Hospital, Carville, Louisiana.

Freedom Foundation - For the purpose of providing financial aid to elementary and secondary school teachers attending annual summer teaching seminars held at the Freedom Foundation, Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

4. RESTRICTED FUNDS

Life Membership Fund - Under the by-laws of the DAV Auxiliary, life membership in the organization is available and amounts so paid are required to be placed in a separate life membership fund and invested; the only allowable withdrawals from the fund are amounts required to pay local units, state departments and national headquarters per capita dues for life members. Life membership receipts are deferred and recognized as income in the operating fund at the time such dues are transferred to the operating fund from the life membership fund, in accordance with the by-laws.

The following summary represents the changes during 1989 in the reserve for future distribution of dues:

Balance, January 1, 1989	$5,007,363
Additions:	
Membership dues received	940,876
Earnings on invested fund assets	404,737
Total	6,352,976
Distributions of dues:	
National Headquarters operating fund	319,675
Local units	58,549
State Departments	50,208
Investment fee	8,867
Total	437,299
Balance, December 31, 1989	$5,915,677

The Fund's investments are held by a bank administered trust fund and are invested primarily in U.S. Corporate Bonds and U.S. Government Securities.

Education Loan Fund - Under the by-laws of the DAV Auxiliary, amounts received from each unit as a mandate for educational loans are placed in a separate fund and invested; withdrawals are made from the fund for loans to students. The maximum amount of an education loan is $4,000 per student; the loan bears no interest and is to be repaid in seven years beginning 90 days after the student's graduation or withdrawal from school.

5. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

All employees of the DAV Auxiliary are covered by the Disabled American Veterans Retirement Plan. The Disabled American Veterans has a defined benefit pension plan covering substantially all of its employees. The benefits are based on years of service and the employee's compensation during the last three years of service. Contributions are intended to provide not only for benefits attributed to service to date, but also for those expected in the future. In 1989, the DAV Auxiliary reimbursed the DAV National Headquarters $50,400 for its share of the retirement plan cost.

6. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The DAV Auxiliary occupies space in the Disabled American Veterans National Headquarter's building and also uses office equipment owned by the Disabled American Veterans. No fees are charged for such usage.

7. RECLASSIFICATIONS

Certain 1988 financial statement amounts have been reclassified to conform with the 1989 financial presentation.

Commander Cardosi. I'd now like to call on the Constitution and Bylaws Committee for their first reading of amendments to the National Constitution and Bylaws.

Past National Commander Kenneth G. Musselmann. Thank you, Commander. The National Convention Committee on Constitution and Bylaws was called to order for its first business session on July 30th, 1989 by Committee Advisor Steve Edmiston. The first order of business was the election of a convention committee chairman. Ken Musselmann was nominated for chairman. There being no further nominations, nominations were closed, and Ken Musselmann was elected chairman.

The next order of business was the nomination and election of a secretary. Dick Sarrazin of Texas was nominated. There being no further nominations, Dick Sarrazin was elected secretary.

Before I read the resolutions that were passed in committee, let me remind everyone that those that were rejected must be brought to the floor today for consideration if you desire, and any amendments that anyone may have to any of the resolutions should be presented today, so they can be read today and considered tomorrow. If not, we'll have to put them off till Thursday, which will lengthen the business session on Thursday morning.

The committee considered 29 resolutions. Thirteen were rejected. The numbers that were rejected were Numbers 12, 49, 137, 161, 162, 163, 174, 240, 263, 265, 269, 272, and 302.

The 16 that were passed I will read, and I will read the RESOLVED portions of the resolutions.

Resolution Number 2. BE IT RESOLVED that effective July 1st, 1990, Article 11, Section 11.8, Paragraph 4, Page 35 be amended by:

(1) Deleting "$2" in Paragraph 4(1) and substituting in lieu thereof "$2.50";

(2) Deleting "$1" in Paragraph 4(2) and substituting in lieu thereof "$1.50";

(3) Deleting "$4" in Paragraph 4(3) and substituting in lieu thereof "$6";

(4) Deleting the words "and National Service fee" where they appear in Paragraph 4(3) and Paragraph 4(3)3;

(5) Adding the words "by the National Finance Committee" between the words "determined" and "that" in Paragraph 4(3); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, effective July 1, 1990, Article 11, Section 11.8, Paragraph 5, Pages 35 and 36 be amended by:

(1) Deleting "$2.50" in Paragraph 5(1) and substituting in lieu thereof "$3";

(2) Deleting "$1.25" in Paragraph 5(2) and substituting in lieu thereof "$1.75";

(3) Deleting "$5" in Paragraph 5(3) and substituting in lieu thereof "$7";

(4) Deleting the words "and National Service fee" where they appear in Paragraph 5(3) and Paragraph 5(3)3;——

Past National Commander Kenneth G. Musselmann. Isn't this exciting? [Laughter.] You're all staying with me, I hope, because this will be important tomorrow.

[Continuing:] and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, effective July 1, 1990, Article 11, Section 11.8, Paragraph 6, Page 36 be amended by:

(1) Deleting "$3" in Paragraph 6(b)(1) and substituting in lieu thereof "$3.50";

(2) Deleting "$1.50" in Paragraph 6(b)(2) and substituting in lieu thereof "$2";

(3) Deleting "$6" in Paragraph 6(b)(3) and substituting in lieu thereof "$8";

(4) Deleting the words "and National Service fee" where they appear in Paragraph 6(b)(3) and Paragraph 6b(3)(3); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, effective with the 1991–1992 membership year, Article 14, Section 14.1, Paragraph 1, Page 43 be amended by deleting "$6" where it appears in this paragraph and substituting in lieu thereof "$7," and deleting the words "and National Service fee" where they appear in this paragraph; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Article 15, Section 15.1, Page 47 be amended by deleting the words "annual service fees," where they appear in this section; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Article 3, Section 3.6, Paragraph 2, Page 8 be amended by deleting the words "service fee and" where they appear in this paragraph.

Past National Commander **KENNETH G. MUSSELMANN**. That's it. That's 2. I've only got 93 more of these. They get better. They get easier, believe me. Okay.

Resolution Number 3. BE IT RESOLVED that Article 11, Section 11.11, Paragraph 1, Page 37 be amended by changing the dates that appear after "Vietnam and other engagements:" to read "January 31, 1955 to October 14, 1976," and to include the following periods of service:

Iranian Crisis, Lebanon Crisis, Invasion of Grenada, Invasion of Panama, and other engagements: November 4, 1979 to January 31, 1990.

Resolution Number 4. BE IT RESOLVED that Article 11, Section 11.11, Paragraph 5(b), Page 39 be amended to add the following new sentence at the end of Subparagraph (b): "The decision of the national adjutant under this article shall be final, anything to the contrary in these Bylaws notwithstanding."

Resolution Number 5. BE IT RESOLVED that Article 11, Section 11.11, Paragraph 5(a), Pages 38 and 39 be amended by deleting the words "Veterans Administration" where they appear and substituting in lieu thereof the words "United States Department of Veterans Affairs."

Resolution Number 6. BE IT RESOLVED that Article 3, Section 3.10, Rule 21(c), Page 14 be amended by deleting the words "Veterans Administration" where they appear and substituting in lieu thereof the words "United States Department of Veterans Affairs."

Resolution Number 7. BE IT RESOLVED that Article 7, Section 7.5, Paragraph 2, Page 25 be amended to read as follows: Paragraph 2: Upon receiving the opinion of the judge advocate upon any question, the national commander shall render a decision which shall be final unless a written notice of appeal to the National Executive Committee stating the grounds therefor is filed by registered mail with the national adjutant within 30 days after the mailing of the decision of the national commander. In the event of such an appeal, the decision of the National Executive Committee shall be final, unless a further written notice of appeal to the national convention stating the grounds therefor is filed by registered mail with the national adjutant within 30 days after mailing of the decision of the National Executive Committee. Under any such appeal, the burden shall be upon the appellant to demonstrate that the decision is clearly erroneous. In all such cases, the decision of the national convention shall be final.

Resolution Number 8. BE IT RESOLVED that Article 7, Section 7.11, Page 27 be amended by inserting the words "International Affairs;" after the word "Employment;" where it appears in this section.

Resolution Number 9. BE IT RESOLVED that Article 14, Section 14.5, Paragraphs 2, 3, 4 and 5, Page 45 be amended by adding the provisions of current Paragraph 4 to current Paragraph 2; deleting the word "the" where it appears before the word "safety" in Paragraph 3 and substituting in lieu thereof the word "any"; deleting Paragraph 4 in its entirety; and renumbering Paragraph 5 Paragraph 4.

Resolution Number 10. BE IT RESOLVED that Article 15, Section 15.2, Paragraph 2, Page 47 be amended to provide that the second sentence read as follows: "All state department fund-raising projects require prior approval of the National Executive Committee."

Resolution Number 54. BE IT RESOLVED that Article 15, Section 15.3, Paragraph 6, Page 49 be amended to read as follows:

Paragraph 6: Any state department may conduct such Forget-Me-Not Drive within the state, in territories where there is no chapter, without prior approval from the National Executive Committee.

Resolution Number 55. BE IT RESOLVED that Article 15, Section 15.4, Paragraph 4, Page 51 be amended by deleting the words "reasonable full" where they appear, and substituting in lieu thereof the words "reasonably detailed."

Resolution Number 56. BE IT RESOLVED that the Short Form Order of Business that appears on Page 67 be amended as follows: Renumber Items 10 through 15 to read:

10. Unfinished Business
11. New Business
12. Reading of Communications
13. Reports of Committees

14. Memorial Ceremony
15. Good of the Order.

Resolution Number 57. BE IT RESOLVED that Article 6, Section 6.2, Paragraph 1, Page 19, be amended by deleting the word "ten" where it appears in the first sentence and substituting in lieu thereof the word "fifty" and deleting the word "fifty" where it appears in the second sentence and substituting in lieu thereof the words "one hundred."

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Article 6, Section 6.2, Paragraph 2, Page 19 be amended by deleting the words "where there is an existing chapter in the same city, town or borough," where they appear in this paragraph.

Resolution Number 58. BE IT RESOLVED that Article 10, Section 10.2, Page 33, be amended to add a new paragraph to this section in order that it will read as follows:

Paragraph 1: The national organization of the DAV Auxiliary and the NOTR shall each make an annual report to the DAV National Convention, including a financial statement.

Paragraph 2: Each DAV women's auxiliary state organization and local units and NOTR dugout or other subordinate units of the NOTR shall keep a complete financial record of all monies received, expended and remitted. All money received by each such subordinate body must be deposited in the name of said body. Each subordinate body shall have an Audit Committee composed of at least three members of said body who shall conduct an annual audit and submit a report of same to the governing DAV state department and DAV national organization within 90 days after the close of the accounting year of said body.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, an audit of such body's books by an independent public accountant shall be considered in compliance with the provisions of this paragraph with respect to such annual report. All financial reports shall, regardless of generally accepted accounting procedures, specify and itemize the precise expenditure of all funds during the reporting period. Broad or general classifications will not be deemed acceptable and may subject said body to the audit provisions of Article 15 of these Bylaws. Failure to file annual financial reports will be sufficient cause to revoke the charter of said body.

Resolution Number 59. BE IT RESOLVED that Article 15, Section 15.7, Paragraph 3, Page 52 be amended by deleting "$50,000" where it appears in the second sentence and substituting in lieu thereof "$75,000."

Resolution Number 60. BE IT RESOLVED that Article 7, Section 7.1, Page 23 be amended by deleting the word "district" and substituting in lieu thereof the words "state department."

Past National Commander **KENNETH G. MUSSELMANN**. Those are the resolutions that were approved by the convention committee. Tomorrow when we read these again, you will have copies of this, will be out in the audience, and we will then offer explanations as to the justification that was used to approve all of these resolutions.

Mr. **HAROLD**. Harold, Boston 10. I have an amendment I wish to submit at this time to Resolution Number 3 to amend Article 11, Section 11.11, Paragraph 1 of the National Bylaws.

BE IT RESOLVED that Article 11, Section 11.11, Paragraph 1, Page 37 be amended by changing the dates that appear after "Vietnam and other engagements:" to read "January 31st, 1955 to October 14th, 1976" and to include the following periods of service: Iranian Crisis, November 4th, 1979 to January 20th, 1981; U. S. Military Peace Keeping Forces in Lebanon and the Invasion of Grenada, August 25th, 1982 to September 6th, 1989; Invasion of Panama, December 20th, 1989 to January 31st, 1990.

And that will be debated tomorrow.

Commander **CARDOSI**. Thank you. I'll accept that amendment. There'll be no discussion.

Thank you, Kenny, for that report.

At this time, I call upon the Employment Committee for their report, Glen Halsey, chairman.

Mr. **SABLIC**. Comrade Commander, Mike 2. I'm sorry. We had a resolution we'd like recognized. I'm sorry. I was getting a copy here. It's 263. I'm Commander Joe Sablic, Chapter 1 in Indiana. I'd like you to make a note, too. We brought 2,500 copies, so you do not need to make any copies of this resolution.

It is "Recognition for Sons of the Disabled American Veterans."

WHEREAS, the Disabled American Veterans have auxiliary units and they in turn have junior auxiliary groups, both of which are valuable——

Commander CARDOSI. Hold on a second.

Mr. SABLIC. Yes.

Commander CARDOSI. I'm going to have that read by the chairman, if you don't mind. We have a copy of it here.

Past Commander MUSSELMANN. Resolution 263 as was indicated earlier, was rejected by the convention committee. I'll read this resolution in its entirety. The title of the resolution is "Recognition for Sons of the Disabled American Veterans."

> WHEREAS, the Disabled American Veterans have auxiliary units and they in turn have junior auxiliary groups, both of which are valuable to the parent organization as in Article VIII; and
>
> WHEREAS, it would be beneficiary and desirable for chapters or the Disabled American Veterans likewise to have junior groups composed of sons and grandsons of veteran members; as the average age of members is increased to 60s and the youngest in 30s, we must take action now to have them duly certified as such; and
>
> WHEREAS, our Elmer Pond Chapter 1 has initially proposed this resolution in 1970, and 20 years is enough;
>
> NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that acceptance of this resolution be with the understanding that any member of this auxiliary group will not be eligible for any regular membership in the Disabled American Veterans at any age unless he has been in active service and become eligible on his own;
>
> NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Disabled American Veterans Elmer Pond Chapter 1, Fort Wayne, Indiana, this 27th day in March, 1990 as an organization and to their sons and grandsons, to establish and officially recognize this junior group (adults also) to be known as "Sons of the Disabled American Veterans"; and
>
> FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that copies thereof be forwarded to the Disabled American Veterans Department of Indiana for its action and approval in June 1990 convention and referral to the Disabled American Veterans National Convention at Anaheim, California, in July 1990 for amendment as in Article IX Constitution, and included in Article 10, Section 10, Auxiliaries, and all other section of Constitution and Bylaws as pertaining to auxiliary groups. Approved by——

I can't read the name—by the commander, signed by the commander and signed by the adjutant.

Commander CARDOSI. Thank you, Kenny. There'll be no discussion.

And now I'd like to call on the Employment Committee report, Glen Halsey, chairman.

Mr. GLEN HALSEY. Thank you, Comrade Commander. Comrades, delegates, the National Convention Committee on Employment was called to order for its first business session on July 30th, 1990 by the committee advisor and employment director, Ron Drach, with Chad Colley as the advisor.

The first order of business was the election of a convention committee chairman. Glen Halsey was nominated for chairman. There being no further nominations, nominations were closed and Glen Halsey was elected chairman.

The next order of business was the nomination and election of a secretary. John McCollough was nominated and elected as secretary of the committee.

The committee then proceeded to review the resolutions submitted, and I will now report to you the resolutions recommended for adoption by this national convention. For the purpose of saving time, I will read only the number and RESOLVED portions of the resolutions.

Resolution 070. Provide legislation that would provide TJTC eligibility to any veteran that has been displaced or become dislocated worker as defined in Section 301, Title 3, Economic Dislocation and Worker Adjustment Assistance Act.

072. Pre-separation programs must comply with service priorities as outlined in Section 2002, Title 38, U. S. Code, and all service persons who are patients transferred to DVA medical centers prior to discharge will be afforded an opportunity to participate in vocational rehabilitation services.

Veterans recruitment authority, similar to the existing VRA that (1) expands eligibility to include recently separated veterans; (2) provides eligibility to all disabled veterans and veterans who have been awarded campaign or expeditionary medals. That was 076.

108. Support veterans' preference in federal, state and local employment.

109. Amend Section 2011 of Title 38, U.S. Code to redefine the term "disabled veteran" as one who has a compensable service-connected disability under laws administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs or one who is discharged or released from active duty for a disability incurred or aggravated in the line of duty. That was 109.

110. Support legislation to permit any wartime disabled veteran who retires from military service for disability to apply credit for all military service for retirement benefits from the Federal Civil Service system.

125. To amend the Job Training Partnership Act to provide for veterans' preference in all programs operated under JTPA.

156. Go on record to urge the Office of Personnel Management to continue to promote and publicize special hiring programs for noncompetitive appointment of eligible veterans.

157. Go on record to urge the Secretary of Labor to conduct a complete review of the policy and programmatic decision-making processes within the Department of Labor as it affects veterans.

199. Program funding for temporary shelters and employment preparation training in order to effectively combat this ever-growing problem spreading throughout nearly all the United States of America.

201. Does hereby go on record urging Congress to amend and expand the EDWAA program to require program operators to identify unemployed veterans, include veterans who are dislocated, involuntarily separated from the service within 48 months, and to receive training as dislocated workers under this program.

203. Go on record urging Congress to pass legislation that eliminates the discriminatory treatment of veterans and allows them to receive consideration under law equal to all other applications. This is unemployment insurance for ex-service members.

205. Does hereby go on record urging the Congress of the United States to retain the operations of the U. S. Employment Service under federal control.

227. That we urge the Congress to appropriate not less than $60 million per year for purposes of administering the Veterans Vocational Training and Retraining Program.

234. Go on record to notify Congress that we support the use of the term "Vietnam Era veteran" in determining this group as a special emphasis group through at least 1996.

237. To amend Title CFR 40, Chapter 60, Section 6250, titled "Affirmative Action Clause," Paragraph H, to strike out, "openings as compensated on a salary of less than $25,000 per year," and substitute in its place, "all openings, regardless of compensation."

253. Develop legislation which would require federal managers follow the provisions of 38 U.S. Code 2014, Affirmative Action Programs for Disabled Veterans.

255. Introduce in Congress a bill to repeal the 1982 change to the Civil Service Retirement Law and testify in appropriate committees for this proposal.

256. Affirmative action programs for disabled veterans or fail to meet program either be denied further contracts from federal agencies and a fine of 10,000 per day for noncompliance.

257. Require federal supervisors to specify in writing the reason a disabled veteran who was on referral list for employment or promotion as one of the best qualified, why he's not selected.

258. Legislation introduced to exclude positions held by disabled veterans from cost comparison studies, and that the bill provide that all current positions at our manufacturing arsenals, Army depot, Air Force and Navy repair facilities and Navy shipyards be classified essential to the national defense.

259. Have introduced in the Congress a bill to return the tax advantages of the Civil Service Retirement Program where the disabled veteran contribution to the retirement fund is paid out tax free.

313. Veterans Employment and Training Service of the United States Department of Labor, LVER, DVOP, JTPA, NVTI, SPA and others be fully and adequately funded and staffed.

314. Support legislation that would transfer the Veterans Employment and Training Service from the Department of Labor to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

315. Request that Section 2012, Title 38, U. S. Code, be amended to include recipients of federal financial assistance to be covered for affirmative action programs.

316. Support legislation to amend Section 2012, Title 38, U. S. Code, to transfer enforcement functions for affirmative action, along with sufficient staff positions and budget from OFCCP to the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans Employment and Training.

317. Seek legislation to provide service-connected veterans special status for priority receipt of federal contracts that are set-asides, as well as noncompetitive contracts.

318. Urge the military services and the VA to create a system to alert the VA vocational and rehabilitation staff of the services persons who have met a PEB or pending medical retirement of severance, so that the appropriate process for vocational rehabilitation services may be expedited.

319. Vocational rehabilitation and counseling program be given adequate resources to reduce the VRS case load to a more manageable size of 135 service-connected disabled veterans per VRS case manager, and permit more of these veterans to achieve vocational rehabilitation.

320. That the Department of Veterans Affairs review and revise the qualification standards of the vocational rehabilitation and counseling staff and implement the revisions to affect all new employees.

Comrade Commander, this completes the report of the Employment National Convention Committee, and I move the adoption of these resolutions, and that the committee be discharged with a vote of thanks by the national convention.

Commander Cardosi. Thank you.

Mr. Nickolas. Mike 2. George Nickolas, Scott County Chapter 2, seconds.

Commander Cardosi. It's been moved and seconded to adopt the committee's report on Employment.

Is there any discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor, signify by saying Aye; any opposed. The Ayes have it. So ordered, and thank you. [Applause.]

[The above-mentioned resolutions follow:]

Resolution No. 070—Legislative

EXTEND AND INCREASE THE TARGETED JOBS TAX CREDIT (TJTC) PROGRAM FOR VETERANS

Whereas, the Targeted Jobs Tax Credit (TJTC) program provides certain tax incentives to employers who hire disadvantaged Vietnam Era and certain disabled veterans; and

Whereas, the program is responsible for the employment of thousands of veterans since its inception; and

Whereas, the program expires on December 31, 1990; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, support legislation to extend the Targeted Jobs Tax Credit Program, make eligible any unemployed veteran and increase the tax credit from $6,000 to $10,000.

RESOLUTION NO. 072—LEGISLATIVE

EMPLOYMENT SEMINARS FOR RETIRING AND SEPARATING SERVICEPERSONS

Whereas, many thousands of servicepersons leave the military service every year and seek employment in civilian occupations; and

Whereas, a very high percentage of this group do not have the basic skills and knowledge needed in order to conduct a successful job search; and

Whereas, there are two successful pilot programs presently being conducted specifically for the purpose of teaching necessary skills such as resume writing and job interview techniques. This employment-related material is being presented when needed most—just for to exiting the service. This information is absolutely essential to make a smooth transition into the civilian labor market; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, request the Assistant Secretary for Veterans' Employment and Training (ASVETS) to meet the stated need by making a concentrated effort to coordinate with the Department of Defense which would result in expansion of these programs to major military installations throughout the country.

RESOLUTION NO. 076—LEGISLATIVE

EXTENDING THE VETERANS READJUSTMENT APPOINTMENT (VRA) AUTHORITY

Whereas, the Veterans Readjustment Appointment (VRA) authority is a special hiring program in the federal government for veterans of Vietnam and certain post-Vietnam Era; and

Whereas, the VRA program was established by Executive Order in 1970 and was subsequently codified in Section 2014, Title 5, USC, (Public Law 95-420); and

Whereas, through the use of this authority almost 300,000 Vietnam Era veterans have been hired in the federal workforce; and

Whereas, the Congress has provided several VRA program extensions; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, support legislation that would make the Veterans Readjustment Appointment (VRA) permanent, change the name to Veterans Recruitment Authority and provide eligibility to all disabled veterans and veterans who have been awarded campaign or expeditionary medals.

RESOLUTION NO. 108—LEGISLATIVE

SUPPORTING VETERANS' PREFERENCE IN FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT

Whereas, the Disabled American Veterans has strongly supported federal, state and local veterans' preference laws; and

Whereas, attempts are being made to weaken, dilute and circumvent existing veterans' preference laws; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, support veterans' preference in federal, state and local employment.

RESOLUTION NO. 109—LEGISLATIVE

TO AMEND THE DEFINITION OF DISABLED VETERAN FOR PURPOSES OF BENEFITS ADMINISTERED UNDER CHAPTER 42, TITLE 38, USC

Whereas, Chapter 42, Title 38, USC, defines a disabled veteran as one who is rated 30% or more service-connected disabled or as one who was discharged or released from active duty because of a disability incurred or aggravated in the line of duty; and

Whereas, disabled veterans continue to bear a disproportionate unemployment rate and have not received adequate assistance under Chapter 42, Title 38, USC; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, support legislation to amend Section 2011 of Title 38, USC, to redefine the term "disabled veteran" as "one who has a compensable service-connected disability under laws administered by the Veterans Administration or one whose discharge or release from active duty was for a disability incurred or aggravated in the line of duty."

RESOLUTION NO. 110—LEGISLATIVE

PROVIDE THAT DISABLED VETERANS WHO RETIRE FROM MILITARY SERVICE FOR DISABILITY BE PERMITTED TO APPLY ALL MILITARY SERVICE TOWARD CIVIL SERVICE RETIREMENT

Whereas, current law permits a disabled military retiree whose disability was incurred as a result of combat with an enemy of the United States and/or the result of an instrumentality of war during a wartime period to apply their military service time toward federal civil service retirement, without waiving their military disability retirement pay; and

Whereas, a wartime disabled military retiree whose disability was not incurred as a result of combat or an instrumentality of war may apply their military service time toward federal civil service retirement, but must waive their military disability retirement pay; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, support legislation to permit any wartime disabled veteran who retires from military service for disability to apply credit for all military service for retirement benefits from the federal civil service system, upon the payment of seven percent of their military pay, without interest.

RESOLUTION NO. 125—LEGISLATIVE

PROVIDE PREFERENTIAL SERVICES TO VETERANS UNDER JTPA

Whereas, Title 11A and III of JTPA is designed to assist unskilled adults and dislocated workers; and

Whereas, veterans are not identified as a target group to be served under Title 11A and III; and

Whereas, the Disabled American Veterans believes very strongly that service-connected disabled veterans should receive top priority in all employment and training programs; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans and National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, support legislation to provide preference to veterans, especially service-connected disabled veterans, in all JTPA programs and to include Congressionally chartered service organizations as members of the Private Industry Counsels.

RESOLUTION NO. 156—ADMINISTRATIVE

CONTINUE PRACTICE OF PROMOTING AND PUBLICIZING SPECIAL HIRING PROGRAMS FOR ELIGIBLE VETERANS

Whereas, Congress has provided special noncompetitive appointment authorities for certain eligible veterans with conversion to career appointments after satisfactory work performance, and

Whereas, the Veterans Readjustment Appointment (VRA) provides noncompetitive appointments for certain Vietnam and disabled veterans; and

Whereas, another authority allows the noncompetitive hiring of veterans with 30% or more service-connected disability; and

Whereas, the use of these special authorities is discretionary and not utilized consistently; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, does hereby go on record urging the Office of Personnel Management to continue to promote and publicize these special hiring programs for the noncompetitive appointment of eligible veterans.

RESOLUTION NO. 157—ADMINISTRATIVE

CONDUCT REVIEW OF POLICY AND DECISION MAKING PROCESS IN DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AS IT AFFECTS VETERANS

Whereas, Congress has created an Assistant Secretary for Veterans' Employment, who is responsible for assuring that all programs funded by the Department of Labor provide Congressionally mandated services to veterans in a timely and responsible manner; and

Whereas, The Assistant Secretary for Veterans Employment and Training, by law serves also as the Secretary of Labor's principal advisor with respect to the formulation and implementation of all departmental programs, policies and procedures as they affect veterans; and

Whereas, many changes already made, including the Job Training Partnership Act, which excluded veterans from its general programs, have been accomplished without substantial consultation with the Assistant Secretary for Veterans' Employment, thus ignoring the mandate of Congress in establishing his responsibility; and

Whereas, it is essential that the Assistant Secretary for Veterans' Employment be a part of the process of formulating and implementing Department of Labor programs, policies and procedures as they affect veterans; Now

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, does hereby go on record to urge the Secretary of Labor to conduct a complete review of the policy and programmatic decision making process within the Department of Labor as it affects veterans; and

Be it further resolved that the Secretary of Labor initiate such corrective action as necessary to ensure that the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans is a part of any and all decision making process in the Department of Labor that will affect any employment and employment training programs.

RESOLUTION NO. 199—LEGISLATIVE

INCREASED FUNDING FOR HOMELESS VETERANS

Whereas, research shows that as many as half of the homeless males of many cities and towns in this country are veterans; and

Whereas, many of these veterans are disabled and chronically ill and therefore unable to obtain employment; and

Whereas, a VA study indicates that as many as 20% of these veterans have serious psychiatric illness associated with post-traumatic stress disorder, which is a major obstacle to becoming employable; and

Whereas, Title VII, Subtitle C, Section 738 of the McKinney Homeless Assistance Act provides funding for Homeless Veterans Reintegration Projects in only 50 major metropolitan cities; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, seek additional program funding for temporary shelters and employment preparation training in order to effectively combat this ever growing problem.

RESOLUTION NO. 201—LEGISLATIVE

DISLOCATED VETERAN TRAINING

Whereas, the Congress failed to provide any additional funding for the continuation of the Veterans Job Training Program contained in PL 100-323; and

Whereas, there is very limited funding available under any other veteran training programs including Title IV C of the JTPA, and Title IV, Section 402 of PL 100-689, which contains the provisions under the Economic Dislocation and Works Adjustment Assistance (EDWAA) Program that veterans "received maximum employment and training service"; and

Whereas, only "dislocated veteran workers" would be eligible for training, which would prevent most other veterans who were involuntarily separated from military service from being eligible as a "significant segment" of the dislocated or structurally unemployed workforce; and

Whereas, veterans constitute approximately 23% of the nation's dislocated workers, while constituting only about 13% of the total labor force; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, urge Congress to amend and expand the EDWAA Program to require program operators to: 1) Identify unemployed veterans with disabilities and other barriers to employment as a significant segment of the eligible dislocated workforce; and 2) include veterans who are involuntarily separated (within 48 months of applying for assistance) as eligible to receive training as dislocated workers under this program.

RESOLUTION NO. 203—LEGISLATIVE

PROVIDE UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION BENEFITS TO EX-SERVICEPERSONS

Whereas, current law prohibits ex-servicepersons from drawing unemployment compensation benefits (UCX) prior to the fifth week following the date the individual was discharged from military service; and

Whereas, this same law limits the total number of weeks an ex-serviceperson may receive unemployment compensation benefits to 13 weeks; and

Whereas, applicants for unemployment benefits, other than ex-servicepersons, may receive these benefits after only one week in many states and continue to receive them for up to 26 weeks; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, support legislation to provide equitable unemployment compensation benefits to all ex-servicepersons on the same basis as is provided to all other eligible persons.

RESOLUTION NO. 205—LEGISLATIVE

SUPPORT A STRONG EMPLOYMENT SERVICE PROGRAM

Whereas, the Administration is attempting to "devolve" the employment service, giving the states the authority to develop and administer their own employment service system; and

Whereas, Congress has declared as its intent that there shall be an effective job and job training counseling service program for eligible veterans; and

Whereas, the Disabled American Veterans believes a strong centralized employment service system is necessary for all eligible veterans, especially disabled veterans, to receive Congressionally mandated employment services; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, reaffirms its vigorous support for a strong centralized employment service system.

RESOLUTION NO. 227—LEGISLATIVE

VETERANS VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND RETRAINING PROGRAM

Whereas, the United States Department of Labor has contracted for and published a report entitled "Workforce 2000, Work and Workers for the 21st Century," and the Congress of the United States published a report entitled "Technology and Structural Unemployment Reemployed Displaced Adults," and these studies do not identify the employment and training needs of veterans; and

Whereas, these veterans represent a significant portion of our national labor force; and

Whereas, current and proposed legislative initiatives to develop employment and training programs to meet the dynamic changes that are taking place within our nation's labor force do not identify the needs of veterans nor provide priority service; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, that we urge the United States Congress to enact legislation that modifies the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) Title IV C to establish a Veterans Vocational Training and Retraining Program that will:

1. facilitate veteran workers training and retraining for new occupations and assist in geographic relocation where appropriate;
2. provide subsidized income during training and retraining;
3. upgrade occupational skills through ongoing training;

4. stimulate the development of employer training programs through tax credits and provide other incentives to defray employer cost of training similar to the Veterans Job Training Act (VJTA);

5. grant to the service provider the flexibility to tailor programs to meet the unique needs of the veteran and the employer of the geographic area served;

6. be entitled the Veterans Vocational Training and Retraining Program to be administered by the Assistant Secretary for Veterans Employment and Training, United States Department of Labor; Now

***Be it further resolved,* that we urge the Congress to appropriate not less than $60 million per year for purposes of administering this Veterans Vocational Training and Retraining Program.**

RESOLUTION NO. 234—LEGISLATIVE

DISABLED VETERANS OUTREACH SPECIALIST PROGRAM

Whereas, legislation was enacted to serve the needs of our nations disabled veterans, especially those of the Vietnam Era; and

Whereas, this legislation linked the number of Disabled Veterans Outreach Specialists, nationwide, to that of the Vietnam veterans population within each respective State; and

Whereas, the existing legislation has placed a delimiting date for the term "Vietnam Era" veterans; and

Whereas, if said legislation is left unchanged, the formula for filling DVOP positions will be drastically changed, and significantly reduce the number of DVOP positions; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, go on record to support the continued use of the term "Vietnam Era" veterans in determining the formula for DVOP funding through at least 1996.

RESOLUTION NO. 237—ADMINISTRATIVE

FEDERAL CONTRACT LISTING OF ALL JOBS

Whereas, the Disabled American Veterans has assumed responsibility for developing public policy proposals designed to improve the quality of life for all disabled and handicapped veterans; and

Whereas, 40 CFR provides that federal contractors are required to list job openings with the Employment Service, but only to a maximum salary of $25,000; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, seek an amendment to this regulation that would cover all jobs regardless of the amount of salary.

RESOLUTION NO. 253—LEGISLATIVE

PROVIDE PENALTIES AGAINST FEDERAL EMPLOYERS WHO VIOLATE AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PROGRAMS FOR DISABLED VETERANS

Whereas, disabled veterans are entitled to affirmative action under Section 2014, Title 38, USC; and

Whereas, this affirmative action is in addition to basic veterans' preference; and

Whereas, many federal departments and agencies do not have an effective affirmative action program for disabled veterans; and

Whereas, there are no sanctions, penalties or other remedial actions available for violations of the affirmative action provisions of Section 2014, Title 38, USC; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, support legislation that would provide a penalty of a 30 day suspension without pay for the first offense and dismissal for the second offense against any civilian personnel officer in the federal government who does not comply with the provisions of Section 2014, Title 38, USC.

RESOLUTION No. 255—LEGISLATIVE

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS FOR MILITARY RETIREES WHO WERE NOT RETIRED ON DISABILITY BECAUSE OF AN INSTRUMENTALITY OF WAR

Whereas, federal laws restrict certain employment benefits to disabled military retirees whose disability was not caused by an instrumentality of war; and

Whereas, no such restriction exists for DAV membership or rates of compensation payable by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA); Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, seek legislation that would grant equal employment benefits to disabled military retirees regardless of whether their disability was caused by an instrumentality of war and who are federal employees.

RESOLUTION No. 256—ADMINISTRATIVE

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION FOR DISABLED VETERANS

Whereas, current law requires certain federal contractors to have an affirmative action program for eligible veterans; and

Whereas, many of these contractors do not comply with this law; and

Whereas, we believe the Department of Labor needs to provide stricter guidance and enforcement; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, seek a change that would require that covered federal contractors seek out disabled veterans for employment, training and promotion to the same degree they do for other covered groups required under similar affirmative action requirements.

RESOLUTION No. 257—LEGISLATIVE

TO AMEND THE DISABLED VETERANS AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PROGRAM

Whereas, Section 2014, Title 38, USC, mandates federal agencies to promote maximum employment and job advancement opportunities within the federal government for qualified disabled veterans and veterans of the Vietnam Era, to include hiring under Executive Order 11521 (VRA); and

Whereas, the disabled veteran Affirmative Action Program is not adequately enforced and does not provide any mechanism to grant relief to an individual who believes an agency may have violated his/her rights; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, support legislation to require federal agencies to specify in writing the reason for non-selection of a qualified disabled veteran who is on the referral list for employment or promotion and who is listed as one of the best qualified.

RESOLUTION No. 258—LEGISLATIVE

TO OPPOSE CONTRACTING OUT TO PRIVATE CONTRACTORS CERTAIN SERVICES CURRENTLY PERFORMED BY FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Whereas, disabled veterans currently enjoy veterans preference in federal employment; and

Whereas, the federal government has renewed its effort to expand its "contracting services" to outside contractors thereby eliminating thousands of jobs in the federal sector; and

Whereas, the elimination of these jobs would impact adversely on employment opportunities for disabled veterans in the federal sector; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, oppose the further contracting out of services currently performed by federal employees.

RESOLUTION No. 259—LEGISLATIVE

AMEND THE CIVIL SERVICE RETIREMENT SYSTEM FOR SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABLED VETERANS

Whereas, service-connected disabled veterans employed by the federal government have contributed to the retirement system and paid taxes on those contributions; and

Whereas, upon retirement these service-connected disabled veterans must start paying taxes on their annuity immediately instead of waiting until they recoup their original contributions; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, support legislation to permit service-connected disabled veterans who retire from federal government employment to receive their retirement annuity tax free until all employee contributions have been fully recouped within the first three years of retirement.

RESOLUTION No. 313—LEGISLATIVE

ADEQUATE FUNDING AND PERMANENCY FOR VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING AND SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION PROGRAMS

Whereas, there are numerous veterans' employment and training programs that need adequate staffing and funding; and

Whereas, those programs include the Veterans' Employment and Training Service of the Department of Labor, LVER and DVOP, JTPA, VJTA, SBA and others; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, seek and support adequate funding and permanency for all veterans employment and training programs.

RESOLUTION No. 314—LEGISLATIVE

TRANSFER THE VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (VA)

Whereas, veterans' educational benefits are administered by VA, not the Department of Education; and

Whereas, veterans' health services are administered by VA, not the Department of Health and Human Services; and

Whereas, veterans' housing programs are administered by VA, not the Department of Housing and Urban Development; and

Whereas, the Department of Labor (DOL) is the only non-VA federal agency administering a veterans' program; and

Whereas, the Department of Veterans Affairs is now a Cabinet level department and the initial reason for the establishment of a Department of Veterans Affairs was to avoid duplication, fragmentation or delay in the various services provided to our nation's veterans; and

Whereas, because of the current roles played by DOL and VA, the two departments recently signed a 42-page agreement with attachments outlining each other's roles which is intended to avoid duplication, fragmentation and delay in services; and

Whereas, if the Veterans' Employment and Training Service were housed in the VA, the possibility for that problem would be minimized; and

Whereas, it is our proposal that the entire Veterans Employment and Training Service staff and funding be transferred to VA, thereby avoiding any reduction in personnel, salaries, benefits or ability to carry out the mandates of Chapters 41, 42 and 43. Our proposal would continue the DVOP and LVER programs as they currently exist.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, support legislation that would transfer the Veterans' Employment and Training Service from the Department of Labor to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

RESOLUTION NO. 315—LEGISLATIVE

AMEND CHAPTER 42, TITLE 38, USC TO INCLUDE GRANTS UNDER AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

Whereas, Section 2012, Chapter 42, Title 38, USC, currently requires federal contractors to take affirmative action on behalf of disabled veterans; and

Whereas, current law does not provide for recipients of federal financial assistance, to include grants to states, to take affirmative action on behalf of veterans; and

Whereas, most federal agencies provide grants to universities, colleges, transportation systems and others who are not required to take affirmative action; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, request that Section 2012 of Title 38, USC, be amended to include "recipients of federal financial assistance" to be covered for affirmative action purposes.

RESOLUTION NO. 316—LEGISLATIVE

TRANSFER ENFORCEMENT FUNCTIONS FOR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION FROM OFCCP TO THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF LABOR FOR VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

Whereas, Section 2012, Title 38, USC, requires that certain government contractors take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified disabled veterans and veterans of the Vietnam Era; and

Whereas, the Secretary of Labor is mandated with the enforcement responsibility of this section of law; and

Whereas, the Secretary has delegated this enforcement authority to the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs; and

Whereas, there is within the Department of Labor an Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment and Training who is the principal advisor to the Secretary on all matters relating to veterans; and

Whereas, it is the belief of the Disabled American Veterans that all veterans' employment and training functions should be the responsibility of this Assistant Secretary; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, support legislation to amend Section 2012, Title 38, USC, to transfer these enforcement functions for affirmative action, along with sufficient staff positions and budget, from OFCCP to the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment and Training.

RESOLUTION NO. 317—LEGISLATIVE

TO AMEND SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION PROGRAMS TO INCLUDE DISABLED VETERANS

Whereas, Small Business Administration specifically lists certain disadvantaged minority groups that are eligible to participate in the programs of the Small Business Administration thereby allowing them to enter into contracts with the U.S. government without competitive bidding; and

Whereas, disabled veterans, as a group, should be added to this list to allow them to participate in the Small Business Administration programs; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, seek legislation to provide service-connected veterans special status for priority receipt of federal contracts that are "set asides" as well as noncompetitive contracts.

RESOLUTION NO. 318—ADMINISTRATIVE

EXPEDITE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL WHO HAVE POTENTIAL ELIGIBILITY

Whereas, veterans experience delays in obtaining services because of application processing; and

Whereas, speed of services is important to the motivation of a disabled veteran in the pursuit of a vocational rehabilitation program; and

Whereas, the technology exists for the military services to interface data with the VA; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, urge the military services and the VA to create a system to alert the VA vocational rehabilitation staff of those service persons who have met a PEB or are pending medical retirement or severance so that the appropriate process for vocational rehabilitation services may be expedited.

RESOLUTION No. 319—ADMINISTRATIVE

VR&C STAFFING

Whereas, the VA's Vocational Rehabilitation Program shows that the vocational rehabilitation specialist caseload has increased to over 220 service-connected disabled veterans per VRS, and

Whereas, over 3,000 service-connected disabled veterans drop out of their vocational rehabilitation programs each year because they can not get the attention they need, and

Whereas, veterans rehabilitated through this program once again contribute to their country by becoming productive taxpaying citizens,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, that the Vocational Rehabilitation and Counseling Program be given adequate resources to reduce the VRS caseload to a more manageable size of 135 service-connected disabled veterans per VRS casemanager and permit more of these veterans to achieve vocational rehabilitation.

RESOLUTION No. 320—ADMINISTRATIVE

QUALIFICATIONS OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION STAFF

Whereas, the role of the Vocational Rehabilitation staff in VA's Vocational Rehabilitation Program is critical to the successful outcomes of service-connected veterans in the program, and

Whereas, it is well known that the results in a rehabilitation program are influenced significantly by the qualifications of the rehabilitation staff, and

Whereas, the qualifications of the vocational rehabilitation staff have not changed to reflect the present mandates of the program or needs of the veteran,

Be it resolved that the Department of Veterans Affairs review and revise the qualification standards of the Vocational Rehabilitation and Counseling staff and implement the revisions to affect all new employees.

Therefore, be it further resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, that the VA undertake a program to improve the qualifications of the existing program staff.

Commander **CARDOSI**. Ladies and gentlemen, will you please rise, and I will ask Chaplain Wilkie to lead us in prayer.

Chaplain **WILKIE**. Let us pray. Almighty Father, we thank You for the freedoms we enjoy and the great fellowship we've had one with another these past few hours and days. See us safely now to our places of rest, and when we go to bed, give us a peaceful sleep, and may our dreams be filled with visions of peace and prosperity for all, so that when we wake in the morning, we'll have new zest, a new zeal, a new love for our fellow men, and for Thy Holy Name. Amen.

Commander **CARDOSI**. The convention now stands in recess until 9:00 o'clock tomorrow morning. Thank you.

[Whereupon, the meeting recessed at 2:50 o'clock p.m., July 30, 1990.]

THIRD BUSINESS SESSION

July 31, 1990

The Third Business Session of the Disabled American Veterans 69th National Convention convened in the California Pavilion of the Anaheim Hilton Hotel and Towers, Anaheim, California, Tuesday morning, July 31, 1990, and was called to order at 9:00 o'clock a.m. by Commander Vernon V. Cardosi.

Commander **VERNON V. CARDOSI**. The convention will please come to order. All rise. Please join me in the Pledge of Allegiance.

[Pledge of Allegiance.]

Commander **CARDOSI**. We will now be led in prayer by Rev. Chaplain Oscar Wilkie.

Chaplain **WILKIE**. Let us pray. Almighty and Ever Loving God, Our Father, we come to You again on this another beautiful morning to thank You for the blessings since we have gathered here and all along the pathway of our lives. We thank You for the comrades that are interested in the advancement of the welfare of all our veterans and their families.

We thank You, Father, for our national organization and for all our undertakings. Help us today and all of our national, department and chapter officers, every delegate, as we consider the business affairs of this convention. We pray that as we are taught to invoke Thy blessings on all our undertakings that You'll be with us and advise us in our deliberations throughout this day.

We thank You that peace and harmony has prevailed this good hour. Grant that it may prevail not only through the remainder of this convention, but throughout the year. Let Your blessing be with us, and may we all realize our dependence upon You, that if we put our trust in You and come to You in faith, that You will bless us.

We thank You, Father, for Your Word, for Your guidance. Help us to refer frequently to You that we may receive guidance and strength that we may not go wrong. Guide us, bless us, we ask it in Your Holy Name. Amen.

Commander **CARDOSI**. You may be seated.

In order for a delegate to be heard at this convention, he must be recognized by the Chair. Only those delegates at a microphone will be recognized. Upon being so recognized, the delegate must state his name, chapter number and the state he represents.

At this time, I'll call on the Credentials Committee for a partial report.

Mr. **BOB BURTON**. Morning, Comrade Commander. National officers and delegates, I'm Bob Burton, the Credentials Committee chairman. The Credentials Committee met this morning in the Avila Room A and B at the Anaheim Hilton Hotel. The roll call showed 1601 delegates and 36 alternates present. This is a partial report for informational purposes only and reflects the registration at the close of registration at 4:00 p.m. on July 30th, 1990.

At the present time, we have 595 chapters, 41 departments, 27 national officers, 10 past national commanders, for a total of 1601 delegates, 36 alternates, for a total vote of 10,014.

This completes the partial report of the Credentials Committee, Commander.

Commander **CARDOSI**. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The Committee on Legislation and Veterans Rights is ready to report, Chairman Paul Demos.

Mr. PAUL T. DEMOS. Comrade Commander and delegates: The National Convention Committee on Legislation and Veterans Rights was called to order for the first business session on July the 30th, 1990 by the committee advisors, John Heilman and Charles Thompson.

The first order of business was the election of a convention committee chairman. Paul Demos was nominated for chairman. There being no further nominations, the nominations were closed and Paul Demos was elected chairman.

The next order of business was the nomination and election of a secretary. Verne Nygaard was nominated and elected as secretary of the committee.

The committee then proceeded to review the resolutions submitted, and I'll now report to you the resolutions recommended for adoption by the national convention. For the purpose of saving time, I will read only the number and the goal of the resolutions.

Number 013. To provide an open period to apply for service-disabled veterans insurance.

018. Concurrent payments of Department of Veterans Affairs disability compensation and military retirement pay.

020 is supporting adequate funding for all of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

021. Support coalition of a VA regional office with the VA medical centers so long as it will not result in a decreased service to the veterans.

Number 022. Opposing the consolidation of the Department of Veterans Affairs regional offices.

024. Opposing a proposal that would offset payments of Social Security disability insurance payments on any other federal benefits by the VA compensation.

025. To raise the estate limits applicable to certain incompetent institutionalized veterans.

031. To extend the eligibility for veterans' mortgage protection life insurance to service-connected veterans rated permanently and totally disabled.

Number 041, as amended. To grant an increase in Section 801(b) of the special adapted housing grants.

Number 083. Opposing the taxation of VA disability compensation benefits.

Number 084. Supporting a change in the payment of certain accrued benefits upon death of a beneficiary.

Number 086. In support of cost-of-living adjustments for military retirees.

Number 088. Expand the POW presumptions.

Number 089. To provide a 15-year protection for service-connected disability evaluations.

Number 090. To provide service connection for residual disabilities related to Agent Orange.

Number 100. Restore entitlement to the VA burial allowances.

Number 111. In support of expanding the Vietnam Era.

113. To increase the face value of service-disabled veterans' insurance.

Number 114. Extend from one year to two years the period to apply for national service life insurance.

Number 118. To extend commissary and exchange privileges on the basis of an award of DIC benefits.

Number 127. Amend Title 38, U. S. Code, Section 1314(k) for entitlement due to lost use of one lung or one kidney.

Number 133. To furnish all military medical records to veterans at the time of discharge.

Number 141. Amend Title 38, CFR 21.3046 to change the delimiting date vis-a-vis Chapter 35 benefits for wives of service-connected veterans who are permanently and totally disabled.

Number 143. Service connection for tinnitus secondary to the hearing loss.

Number 164. Opposing the indexing of VA disability compensation benefits.

Number 170. Increase the burial plot allowance to $250.

Number 171. A disability compensation increase.

Number 172. Liberalize service connection for our chronic diseases.

Number 179. In support of equal compensation payments for the Philippine, World War II service-connected disabled veterans.

Number 180. A realistic increase in the automobile grant.

Number 183. A realistic increase in specially adapted housing grants.

Number 192. PX commissary privileges for former POWs rated 50 percent or more service-connected disabled.

Number 210. Itemization of all monies paid to veterans receiving military severance pay.

Number 213. Prohibit reduction of service connection as result of administrative changes in the rating schedule.

Number 216. Maintain integrity of the DVA rating schedule.

Number 268. Opposition to benefit cutting proposals made by the Department of Veterans Affairs as a cost reduction measure.

Number 273. Entitlement for educational benefits under Title 38, U. S. Code, for dependents of veterans rated 50 percent or more.

Number 276. In support of equitable dependency and indemnity compensation.

Number 281. Oppose a freeze in the rates of VA disability compensation benefits.

Number 282. Establish a house-bound allowance under the VA independent parents of the DIC program.

Only two more pages to go.

Number 283. To establish Section 3107, Title 38, U. S. Code, as the sole means to compel division of VA benefits.

Number 284. To exempt compensation and DIC payment from the provisions of Section 3113, Title 38, U. S. Code.

Number 285. To provide for a national cemetery in every state.

Number 286. In support of a VA home loan guarantee program.

Number 287. Supporting legislation to maintain VA control over its records processing center.

Number 288. Opposing the dissolution of the military commissary system.

Number 291. To exclude military disability severance pay from federal income tax.

Number 292. To extend space-available air travel aboard military aircraft to 100 percent service-connected disabled veterans.

Number 293. To extend military commissary and exchange privileges and space-available air travel to certain service-connected disabled veterans.

Number 294. Requesting adequate funding for the Federal Postal Service Revenue Fund.

Number 297. In support of a reasonable limitation on liability arising out of DAV programs or service.

Number 298. To amend Title 38 U. S. Code to authorize the Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Benefits Administration to accept gifts, devises and bequests.

I would like to express appreciation to John Heilman and Charles Thompson for their outstanding assistance and expertise as advisors to this committee; also to the delegates and alternates of the committee, which, with their help, we went through a great number of the resolutions. And of course, Verne Nygaard, the secretary, who did all the work, I'd be remiss if I didn't thank him very personally.

Comrade Commander, this completes the report of the Legislative and Veterans Rights National Convention Committee. I move for the adoption of these resolutions and that the committee be discharged with the thanks of the national convention.

Commander Cardosi. You heard the motion. Do I have a second?

Mr. Friesema. Mike 1. Jim Friesema, Detroit Number 1, supports the motion.

Commander Cardosi. Thank you. You've heard the motion and it's been duly seconded. All those in favor—first of all, is there any discussion?

Mr. Donahue. I'd like a few remarks. Mike 2. William Donahue, vice-commander, Department of Connecticut, Chapter 4. I'm also on the Committee for Legislation. I would like to bring to the attention of the body here that there are two resolutions relative to the NOTCH Program. I just want to make sure that the older veterans in the audience realize that they have been turned down.

We are not asking necessarily that the body here pass the resolution. You will find that they simply ask this body to support this program. It is, I think, important that the people understand what has been rejected.

Commander **CARDOSI**. I understand. You can talk on it, but I don't want you to read them. You can't read them.

Mr. **DONAHUE**. All right. I won't read them.

Commander **CARDOSI**. I'll have the chairman read them.

Mr. **DONAHUE**. If everybody knows what NOTCH is, then I'll sit down.

Commander **CARDOSI**. What's the number of the resolution, please?

Mr. **DONAHUE**. Well, we have two of them here. Under 69, you have 274 and you have 221. They both are similar.

Commander **CARDOSI**. I'll have the chairman read them. Thank you.

Mr. **DONAHUE**. Thank you, sir. I have a copy if you don't.

Commander **CARDOSI**. We'll have the chairman read it. Be patient.

There's a young fellow that's having a birthday today, Dennis Weatherly. Where are you, Dennis? Where's Dennis? Happy birthday, Dennis. [Applause.]

The chairman is ready.

Mr. **DEMOS**. On Resolution Number 221, would it be convenient—because the other two are reasonably basically the same thing. Would that be adequate if we read all of 221?

Mr. **DONAHUE**. It's adequate to me if the audience understands what we are rejecting, not just the general term.

Mr. **DEMOS**. Thank you. One of the basic problems why this received an unfavorable consideration from the committee, in addition to other reasons, was the Congress has already addressed this situation and it was by enactment of the Congress, and we're really talking the difference between people born between 1917 and 1921, and they refer to this as NOTCH, N-O-T-C-H. They receive less benefits than those born 1922 on.

Was that a fair statement of fact?

Mr. **DONAHUE**. That's a fair statement, and it involves all World War II veterans, the oldest veterans. We have an older—35 percent of the veterans in this country are in the category of 70 years old. There are three bills in Congress. All we're trying to do is to get this body to support the bills. We're not trying to have you rewrite legislation.

Mr. **DEMOS**. The other reason that was brought up on the committee, that it wasn't germane to the Resolution Committee on Legislation, because of the mandate that we received from the national commander, that if it wasn't germane, we couldn't consider it.

But it was an important thing, and we discussed it thoroughly at the—and let me read the last WHEREAS. I think this might do it.

WHEREAS, several bills have been introduced in the 101st Congress to address the concerns of NOTCH babies; as an example, HR Bill 2368, introduced by Representative Bruce Morrison, Third District, Taxable by Social Security; another, the Social Security Transitional Benefits Computed Act of 1989, calls for a ten-year period of transition. All bills introduced in Congress to address the concern of NOTCH babies suggest a restricting of Social Security formula to increase benefits to those born between 1917 and 1921.

Commander CARDOSI. Now I think we clarified what you discussed as NOTCH benefits. I think that clarifies it.

And now I'm going to call for the vote, if there's no further discussion. All those in favor, signify by saying Aye; any opposed. Ayes have it. So ordered.

[Cries of "No."]

Commander CARDOSI. The Ayes have it. Let's continue.

[The above-mentioned resolutions follow:]

RESOLUTION No. 013—LEGISLATIVE

TO PROVIDE AN OPEN PERIOD TO APPLY FOR SERVICE DISABLED VETERANS INSURANCE (RH)

Whereas, service-connected disabled veterans are entitled to apply for Service Disabled Veterans Insurance (RH) within one year from the date the VA grants service-connection for any disability; and

Whereas, many eligible veterans, due to financial difficulties and problems associated with readjustment to civilian life, did not apply for this insurance within the one year eligibility period; and

Whereas, many of these service-connected disabled veterans are now prepared and can afford to purchase this insurance but are not able to purchase comparable insurance coverage in the private sector; and

Whereas, precedent has been established to extend previously closed "eligibility periods" for certain other VA benefits and services, including insurance; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, seek the enactment of legislation that would authorize an "open period" for eligible service-connected disabled veterans to apply for coverage under the Service Disabled Veterans Insurance Program..

RESOLUTION No. 018—LEGISLATIVE

CONCURRENT PAYMENTS OF VA DISABILITY COMPENSATION AND MILITARY RETIREMENT PAY

Whereas, ex-servicemen who are retired from the military on length of service must waive a portion of their retired pay in order to receive disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs; and

Whereas, it would be more equitable if the laws and regulations were changed to provide that in such cases the veteran would be entitled to receive both benefits concurrently since eligibility was established and earned under two entirely different sets of enabling laws and regulations; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, support legislation and changes in applicable regulations which would provide that a veteran who is retired for length of service and is later adjudicated as having service-connected disabilities, may receive concurrent benefits from the military department and from the VA without deduction from either.

RESOLUTION No. 020—LEGISLATIVE

SUPPORTING ADEQUATE FUNDING FOR ALL VA PROGRAMS

Whereas, understaffing of VA programs in recent years has hampered the VA's ability to effectively administer programs intended to benefit this nation's veterans; and

Whereas, continued efforts by the Office of Management and Budget to reduce the VA budget will lead to further deterioration of all VA programs; and

Whereas, this nation's first concern should be to fulfill its obligation to those who served in the military services in defense of the country; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, seek and strongly support adequate funding for all VA programs.

RESOLUTION No. 021—LEGISLATIVE

SUPPORT COLLOCATION OF VA REGIONAL OFFICES WITH VA MEDICAL CENTERS SO LONG AS IT WILL NOT RESULT IN A DECREASE IN SERVICES TO VETERANS

Whereas, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), in an attempt to reduce federal expenses to deliver benefits to veterans, has proposed to collocate certain regional offices on the grounds of VA medical centers; and

Whereas, in some locations such moves could improve the convenience to veterans by making the facility more accessible with adequate parking; and

Whereas, collocation would provide one stop services with access to health care, claims service and services organizations at the same location, Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, support collocation of VA Regional Offices and VA Medical Centers so long as it will not result in a decrease in services to veterans.

RESOLUTION No. 022—LEGISLATIVE

OPPOSING THE CONSOLIDATION OF VA REGIONAL OFFICES

Whereas, VA regional offices were established to provide a more expeditious method of providing services to veterans, their dependents and survivors; and

Whereas, because of federal budgetary restrictions, VA regional offices are presently encountering difficulties in providing such services; and

Whereas, the consolidation of all regional offices would further inhibit and disrupt the VA's ability to provide timely and responsible service to veterans; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, oppose any proposal to centralize veterans' claims processing services.

RESOLUTION No. 024—LEGISLATIVE

OPPOSING ANY PROPOSAL THAT WOULD OFFSET PAYMENTS OF SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY INSURANCE BENEFITS OR ANY OTHER FEDERAL BENEFIT BY VA COMPENSATION

Whereas, there has been consideration given to proposing an offset of Social Security Disability Insurance Benefits by payments of any other federal benefit; and

Whereas, the adoption of such a measure would reduce the overall income provided to those service-connected veterans who have a compensable disability and who also suffer a permanent and total disability for purposes of Disability Insurance Benefits from the Social Security Administration; and

Whereas, such an offset would work a grave and undue hardship on all totally disabled service-connected veterans and their families by drastically reducing their total income; and

Whereas, benefits received from the Department of Veterans Affairs or under military retirement pay and other federal programs have differing eligibility criteria as compared to the earned payments of Social Security Disability Insurance Benefits; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, oppose any measure which proposes to offset the payment of any other federal benefit or earned benefit entitlement by VA compensation payments made to service-connected disabled veterans.

Resolution No. 025—Legislative

TO RAISE THE ESTATE LIMIT APPLICABLE TO CERTAIN INCOMPETENT, INSTITUTIONALIZED VETERANS

Whereas, current law requires the suspension of VA disability compensation, pension and emergency officer's retirement pay in the case of mentally incompetent veterans who have neither a spouse or child and who are being furnished hospital treatment, institutional or domiciliary care at U.S. government expense once the estate of such veterans equals or exceeds the sum of $1,500.00 (not to be continued until the estate is reduced to $500); and

Whereas, this $1,500 estate level has not been adjusted in many years and conceivably can cause financial hardship to such veterans; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, support legislation which would provide a realistic upward adjustment in the present maximum $1,500 estate level that applies to such mentally incompetent, institutionalized veterans.

Resolution No. 031—Legislative

TO EXTEND ELIGIBILITY FOR VETERAN MORTGAGE PROTECTION LIFE INSURANCE TO SERVICE-CONNECTED VETERANS RATED PERMANENTLY AND TOTALLY DISABLED

Whereas, the VA Mortgage Protection Life Insurance is presently available to veterans entitled to the special adapted housing award under Section 801(a) of Title 38, U.S. Code; and

Whereas, service-connected veterans rated as permanently and totally disabled cannot obtain Mortgage Protection Life Insurance through commercial insurance companies; and

Whereas, their widows and dependents must bear an undue hardship upon the death of such veterans; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, seek the enactment of legislation which would extend VA Mortgage Protection Life Insurance to service-connected veterans who are rated as permanently and totally disabled.

Resolution No. 041—Legislative

TO PROVIDE AN INCREASE IN THE SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING GRANT AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 801(b), TITLE 38, USC

Whereas, Chapter 21, Section 801(b), Title 38, USC authorizes a onetime specially adapted housing grant to veterans who have incurred the service-connected conditions of: (1) bilateral blindness with visual acuity of 5/200 or less; or (2) the anatomical loss or loss of use both hands; and

Whereas, the purpose of this grant is to enable such severely disabled veterans to provide necessary structural adaptations and modifications in their homes for comfort and safe access and egress; and

Whereas, the current $6,500 maximum amount authorized for this grant is insufficient to allow such veterans to make all necessary adaptations and modifications; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, support legislation in the Congress which would provide a realistic increase in the grant authorized by Chapter 21, Section 801(b), Title 38 USC.

Resolution No. 083—Legislative

OPPOSING THE TAXATION OF VA DISABILITY COMPENSATION BENEFITS

Whereas, the Tax Simplification Plan, released by the Department of the Treasury in November 1984, proposed the federal taxation of VA disability compensation benefits; and

Whereas, in the entire history of the disability compensation program these benefits have never been subject to taxation at either the federal, state or local levels; and

Whereas, taxation of these benefits would amount to nothing more than a permanent, enduring reduction in benefits and would demean the sacrifice and service of our nation' s service-connected disabled veteran population; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, vigorously oppose any proposal that would subject VA disability compensation benefits to taxation.

RESOLUTION No. 084—LEGISLATIVE

SUPPORTING A CHANGE IN THE "PAYMENT OF CERTAIN ACCRUED BENEFITS UPON DEATH OF A BENEFICIARY"

Whereas, Section 3021, Title 38, U.S. Code, sets forth the requirement for payment of accrued benefits upon death of a beneficiary and limits accrued benefits to periodic monetary benefits due and unpaid for a period not to exceed one year; and

Whereas, the current appeals process, including a favorable Board of Veterans Appeals decision-and payment of retroactive benefits can take considerably longer than one year; and

Whereas, the spouse and/or dependent children are part of the the veteran's "family unit" and suffer the financial loss incurred during the appeals process; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, support legislation which would provide for payment in full of all due and unpaid accrued benefits to the spouse or dependent children.

RESOLUTION No. 086—LEGISLATIVE

IN SUPPORT OF COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENTS FOR MILITARY RETIREES

Whereas, the Fiscal Year 1986 sequestration order issued pursuant to Public Law 99-177, the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, prevented military retirees from receiving a cost of living adjustment (COLA) in their benefits; and

Whereas, other categories of federal annuitants and beneficiaries—Social Security and VA service-connected disability compensation and nonservice-connected pension recipients, for example—did receive a COLA in Fiscal Year 1986; and

Whereas, it is basically unfair—especially in the case of military disability retirees—to provide a COLA to one category of federal beneficiary while withholding such an adjustment from another category; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, support legislation in the Congress which would ensure the timely extension of COLAs to military retirees when similar adjustments are being authorized for beneficiaries in the Social Security and VA benefit programs.

RESOLUTION No. 088—LEGISLATIVE

EXPAND POW PRESUMPTIONS

Whereas, former prisoners-of-war suffered cruel and inhumane treatment, together with nutritional deprivation at the hands of their captors which resulted in long-term adverse health effects; and

Whereas, prisoners-of-war were subjected to numerous and varying forms of abuse contingent upon the place, time and circumstance of their captivity by the enemy; and

Whereas, for this reason former prisoners-of-war suffer from a wide range of different physical and psychological maladies; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, support legislation which would add those medical conditions which are characteristically associated with or can be reasonably attributed to the POW experience as presumptive disorders for former POWs.

RESOLUTION NO. 089—LEGISLATIVE

TO PROVIDE A 15 YEAR PROTECTION PERIOD FOR SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITY EVALUATIONS

Whereas, Section 110 of Title 38, U.S. Code, now provides for the protection of all disability compensation evaluations that have been continuously in effect for 20 or more years; and

Whereas, permanency should be conceded for disability compensation ratings which have been in effect for 15 years without change in evaluation with no further examination scheduled; Now

Therefore, be it resolved by the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, that Section 110 of Title 38, U.S. Code, be amended to provide that disability evaluations continuously in effect at the same evaluation rate be protected after a period of 15 years.

RESOLUTION NO. 090—LEGISLATIVE

TO PROVIDE SERVICE-CONNECTION FOR RESIDUAL DISABILITY RELATED TO AGENT ORANGE

Whereas, from 1965 to 1970 some 10.65 million gallons of the chemical defoliant Agent Orange were used extensively throughout Vietnam; and

Whereas, thousands of U.S. troops were sprayed directly or were repeatedly exposed to herbicides containing dioxin; and

Whereas, with the exception of a skin condition chloracne—the Department of Veterans Affairs has not granted a single claim for residual disabilities related to exposure to Agent Orange; and

Whereas, Public Law 96–151 mandated the Department of Veterans Affairs to conduct a study of the long term health effects on veterans exposed to the variety of phenoxy herbicides used in Vietnam; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, seek the enactment of legislation which would extend service-connection for any identifiable residual disability or disease scientifically proven to be the result of exposure to the chemical defoliant Agent Orange or any other phenoxy herbicide—incurred by veterans who served in Vietnam.

RESOLUTION NO. 100—LEGISLATIVE

RESTORE ENTITLEMENT TO THE VA BURIAL ALLOWANCE

Whereas, Public Law 97–35 terminated entitlement to the VA non-service-connected burial allowance to the survivors of certain wartime veterans who, at the time of death, were not in receipt of VA disability compensation, pension or military retirement pay; and

Whereas, the denial of the VA's non-service-connected burial allowance to the survivors of wartime veterans can cause financial hardship for these survivors; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, supports legislation in the Congress that would authorize VA non-service-connected burial benefit entitlement to the survivors of all wartime veterans.

RESOLUTION NO. 111—LEGISLATIVE

IN SUPPORT OF EXPANDING THE VIETNAM ERA

Whereas, Title 38, U.S. Code, currently defines the Vietnam Era as beginning on August 5, 1964, and ending on May 7, 1975; and

Whereas, the U.S. military has recognized our involvement in Vietnam by awarding the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal and the Navy and Marine Corps Medal for service beginning on July 1, 1958; and

Whereas, veterans who served in Vietnam between July 1, 1958, and August 4, 1964, and their survivors are being denied wartime Veterans Administration benefits; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, seek the enactment of legislation to change the beginning date of the Vietnam Era from August 5, 1964, to July 1, 1958.

RESOLUTION NO. 113—LEGISLATIVE

TO INCREASE THE FACE VALUE OF SERVICE DISABLED VETERANS INSURANCE (RH)

Whereas, certain veterans are eligible for National Service Life Insurance (NSLI) under Section 722, Title 38, U.S. Code; and

Whereas, honorably discharged veterans released from active military duty on or after April 25, 1951 found by the Department of Veterans Affairs to be suffering from a disability or disabilities for which a compensable evaluation would be payable, shall, upon application, be granted insurance by the United States government under Section 722(a), Title 38, U.S. Code; and

Whereas, this insurance, commonly referred to as RH insurance, is non-participating with no dividends payable; and

Whereas, many of these veterans are uninsurable by private insurance companies as a result of their service-connected disabilities; and

Whereas, inflation has rapidly increased and diminished the value of the insurance since the maximum was set at $10,000; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, support an amendment to Title 38, U.S. Code, to increase the face value of Service Disabled Veterans Insurance (RH) to $20,000.

RESOLUTION NO. 114—LEGISLATIVE

EXTEND FROM ONE YEAR TO TWO YEARS THE PERIOD TO APPLY FOR NATIONAL SERVICE LIFE INSURANCE (RH)

Whereas, Section 722, Title 38, U.S. Code, provides service-connected disabled veterans one year from the date that service-connection for disability is initially established by the VA in which to apply for NSLI; and

Whereas, many young veterans are solicited by private insurance companies immediately following their discharge from service, which has often caused confusion for such veterans when evaluating their need for life insurance; Now

Therefore, be it resolved by the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, that Section 722, Title 38, U.S. Code, be amended to extend from one to two years the period in which service-connected disabled veterans may apply for National Service Life Insurance (RH).

RESOLUTION NO. 118—LEGISLATIVE

TO EXTEND COMMISSARY AND EXCHANGE PRIVILEGES ON THE BASIS OF AN AWARD OF DIC BENEFITS

Whereas, current Department of Defense regulations authorize military commissary and exchange privileges to a broad category of active and retired military personnel, their dependents and survivors; and

Whereas, these regulations authorize such privileges to the spouses of living veterans who are permanently and totally disabled due to a service-connected disability and to the survivors of veterans who were permanently and totally disabled due to a service-connected disability at time of death; and

Whereas, the survivors of veterans whose service-connected impairments were evaluated at less than totally disabling but whose deaths were determined to be service related are denied these privileges; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, support the enactment of legislation that would authorize military commissary and exchange privileges for the survivors of veterans whose deaths were found to be related to a service-connected disability.

RESOLUTION No. 127—LEGISLATIVE

TO AMEND TITLE 38, USC, SECTION 314(k) TO PROVIDE ENTITLEMENT DUE TO THE LOSS OF ONE LUNG OR ONE KIDNEY

Whereas, veterans who have suffered the loss or loss of use of one lung or one kidney resulting from serving with the Armed Forces of the United States are definitely severely handicapped; and

Whereas, such veterans with these handicaps have a shortened life expectancy and have to live a very guarded life; and

Whereas, these veterans have difficulty in obtaining suitable employment and are required to pay additional premiums to obtain insurance; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, support legislation in the Congress to amend Section 314(k) of Title 38, to add the loss or loss of use of one lung, and one kidney.

RESOLUTION No. 133—LEGISLATIVE

SUPPORT THE FURNISHING OF MILITARY PERSONNEL MEDICAL RECORDS TO SEPARATING PERSONNEL AT TIME OF SEPARATION FROM ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE

Whereas, military personnel being separated from the Armed Forces have their military personnel files and medical records transferred to the National Personnel Records Center for permanent retention; and

Whereas, former military personnel who file claims for benefits with the Department of Veterans Affairs must wait until the appropriate service records are received before entitlement may be established; and

Whereas, it often takes an inordinate period of time to retrieve these records, often up to six months; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, urge the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Transportation, with respect to the Coast Guard, to direct that personnel being released from active duty be provided a certified copy of their service medical records, thereby ensuring that claims for veterans' benefits are processed without undue delay.

RESOLUTION No. 141—LEGISLATIVE

ELIMINATE THE DELIMITING DATE FOR ELIGIBLE SPOUSES AND SURVIVING SPOUSES FOR BENEFITS PROVIDED UNDER CHAPTER 35, TITLE 38, USC

Whereas, dependents and survivors eligible for VA education benefits under Chapter 35, Title 38, U.S. Code, have ten years in which to apply for and complete a program of education; and

Whereas, this ten year period begins either from the date a veteran is evaluated by the VA as permanently and totally disabled from service-connected disabilities or ten years from the date of such veteran's death due to service-connected disability; and

Whereas, in many instances, because of family obligations or the need to provide care to the veteran, spouses or surviving spouses may not have had an opportunity to apply for these benefits; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, seek the enactment of legislation which would eliminate the delimiting date for spouses and surviving spouses for purposes of benefits provided under Chapter 35, Title 38, USC.

RESOLUTION No. 143—ADMINISTRATIVE

SERVICE-CONNECTION FOR TINNITUS SECONDARY TO SENSORINEURAL HEARING LOSS

Whereas, 38 CFR 4.87a, Diagnostic Code 6260, provides a compensable evaluation for tinnitus, persistent as a symptom of head injury, concussion or acoustic trauma; and

Whereas, a significant number of the veteran population suffers from tinnitus attributed to, or in the alternative, secondary to sensorineural hearing loss; and

Whereas, the severity and/or debilitating nature of sensorineural hearing loss affecting the sensory nerve and sensory mechanism can be associated with tinnitus, and as such it is not believed that the etiology is separate; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, supports a change in the 1945 Schedule for Rating Disabilities (as amended) to provide a compensable evaluation for tinnitus attributed to, or in the alternative, secondary to sensorineural hearing loss.

RESOLUTION NO. 164—LEGISLATIVE

OPPOSING THE INDEXING OF VA DISABILITY COMPENSATION BENEFITS

Whereas, the Administration and the Office of Management and Budget have proposed that future adjustments in VA service-connected disability compensation benefits shall be automatically "indexed" to changes in the Consumer Price Index; and

Whereas, adjustments of the benefit levels in this most important VA program have always been determined through legislative action by the U.S. Congress; and

Whereas, over the years such legislated increases have resulted in high benefit levels for disabled veterans, improvement in other compensation related entitlements and a continued and active Congressional oversight over the entire compensation program; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, go on record as being strongly opposed to the automatic indexing of future adjustments in the VA service-connected disability compensation program.

RESOLUTION NO. 170—LEGISLATIVE

INCREASE BURIAL PLOT ALLOWANCE TO $250

Whereas, the burial plot allowance was enacted into law in 1973 to provide payment of a plot or interment allowance of $150; and

Whereas, the purpose for enactment of the law and its amendments was to ease demand for establishing new national cemeteries since the number of persons eligible for burial in the National Cemetery System greatly exceeded the number of available burial plots; and

Whereas, to provide greater equity between those buried and those not buried in national cemeteries and to encourage development of state veterans' cemeteries, an amendment to the law was passed in 1978 which provided for payment of the burial plot allowance to states or political subdivisions bearing the cost of the interment of veterans in state or local veterans' cemeteries; and

Whereas, everything possible should be done to encourage, through grants and other means, development of state veterans' cemeteries in order to provide every veteran the opportunity to be buried in a veterans' cemetery; and

Whereas, the plot allowance of $150 has remained stationary during the inflationary economy since 1973 and requires an increase to restore its buying power; and

Whereas, the cost of expanding state cemeteries is increasing annually and delaying the expansion of these cemeteries to a point where veterans' cemetery plots will be scarce and, eventually, nonexistent; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, support legislation to increase the burial plot allowance from $150 to $250 to defray the burial expense of veterans not buried in a national cemetery.

RESOLUTION NO. 171—LEGISLATIVE

DISABILITY COMPENSATION INCREASE

Whereas, it is the historical policy of the Disabled American Veterans that this nation's first duty to veterans is to provide for the rehabilitation of its wartime disabled; and

Whereas, the percentage ratings for service-connected disabilities represent, as far as can be practicably determined, the average impairment in earnings capacity resulting from such diseases and injuries in civil occupations; and

Whereas, compensation increases should be based on the loss of earnings capacity; and

Whereas, disabled veterans who are unable to work because of service-connected disabilities should be entitled to compensation payments commensurate with the after tax earnings of their able-bodied contemporaries; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, support the enactment of legislation to provide a realistic increase in VA compensation rates to bring the standard of living of disabled veterans in line with that which they would have enjoyed had they not suffered their service-connected disabilities.

RESOLUTION NO. 172—LEGISLATIVE

LIBERALIZE SERVICE-CONNECTION FOR CHRONIC DISEASES

Whereas, Section 301 of Title 38, U.S. Code, sets forth the various chronic diseases for which a presumption of service-connection may be established; and

Whereas, Section 312(a) (1) of Title 38, U.S. Code, requires a finding of compensable impairment within one year from the date of separation from active duty military service before service-connection may be granted for any of the chronic diseases listed in Section 301; and

Whereas, the list of diseases currently contained in Section 301 have been carefully selected by the Congress so as to only include those diseases which are chronic in nature; and

Whereas, chronic diseases are by their very nature long-term and often insidious impairments; and

Whereas, the current requirement of finding a compensable impairment within one year of the date of separation from active duty wartime service often results in the denial of service-connection for a disease that had its onset during active duty military service; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, seeks the enactment of legislation which would amend Section 312 of Title 38, U.S. Code, to eliminate the provision which predicates service-connection upon the manifestation to a compensable degree within one year from the date of separation from active duty service for any of the diseases listed in Section 301 of Title 38, U.S. Code.

RESOLUTION NO. 179—LEGISLATIVE

EQUAL VA BENEFITS TO CERTAIN PHILIPPINE WORLD WAR II VETERANS

Whereas, Section 107, Title 38, U.S. Code, provides that the VA monetary benefits payable to certain eligible World War II Filipino veterans shall be at one-half the amount paid to eligible U.S. veterans; and

Whereas, such Filipino veterans fought, suffered and were injured while engaged in combat against an enemy of the United States of America and were in such service pursuant to the military order of the President dated July 26, 1941; and

Whereas, the DAV supports the principle of equal benefits to all veterans who were disabled in the military service of the United States; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, support legislation to provide equal service-connected disability compensation benefits to all eligible Philippine Commonwealth Army veterans, recognized guerrillas and Philippine Scouts at the same rate of disability compensation that applies to service-connected veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States.

RESOLUTION NO. 180—LEGISLATIVE

TO PROVIDE AN INCREASE IN THE AUTOMOBILE GRANT AUTHORIZED BY CHAPTER 39, TITLE 38, USC

Whereas, Chapter 39, Title 38, USC presently authorizes a onetime grant to be used for the purchase of an automobile for certain severely disabled service-connected veterans; and

Whereas, such a grant is necessary so that these disabled veterans can purchase automobiles that have necessary adaptive equipment which allows them to safely enter and operate motion vehicles; and

Whereas, the high cost of automobiles today renders the present $5,500 maximum grant amount insufficient to enable eligible veterans to purchase all necessary adaptive equipment; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, support legislation in the Congress that will provide a realistic increase in the automobile grant presently authorized by Chapter 39, Title 38, USC.

RESOLUTION NO. 183—LEGISLATIVE

TO PROVIDE AN INCREASE IN THE SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING GRANT AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 801(a), TITLE 38, USC

Whereas, Chapter 21, Section 801(a), Title 38, USC authorizes a one time specially adapted housing grant to certain veterans who have incurred the service-connected conditions of blindness, with loss or loss of use of one lower extremity, multiple loss or loss of use of extremities, and/or loss of functions which affect balance or propulsion; and

Whereas, the purpose of this grant is to enable such severely disabled veterans to provide necessary structural adaptations and modifications in their homes for comfort and egress; and

Whereas, the current $38,000.00 maximum amount authorized for this grant is insufficient to allow such veterans to make all necessary adaptations and modifications; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, support legislation in the Congress which would provide a realistic increase in the grant authorized by Chapter 21, Section 810(a), Title 38, USC.

RESOLUTION NO. 192—LEGISLATIVE

COMMISSARY/PX PRIVILEGES FOR FORMER POWS RATED 50% OR MORE SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABLED

Whereas, under current law and regulation, military commissary/PX privileges are extended to military retirees and certain of their immediate family members and survivors and to 100% service-connected disabled veterans and certain of their family members and survivors; and

Whereas, other categories of present or former government employees and certain of their family members and survivors and certain foreign nationals residing in the United States have military commissary/PX privileges; and

Whereas, former prisoners of war of enemies of the United States—especially those who are severely disabled—have undergone tremendous deprivation in and suffering in the service of their country and should certainly be extended the same privileges; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, support legislation in the Congress that would extend military commissary/PX privileges to former American POWs who are 50% or more service-connected disabled.

RESOLUTION NO. 210—ADMINISTRATIVE

IN SUPPORT OF ITEMIZATION OF ALL MONIES PAID TO VETERANS RECEIVING MILITARY SEVERANCE PAY

Whereas, the Department of Veterans Affairs recoups disability severance pay from veterans in receipt of compensable disability ratings from the Department of Veterans Affairs before further compensation payments are allowed; and

Whereas, single lump-sum payments upon separation from military service include disability severance as well as accrued leave and other payments not identified on the military final pay statements; and

Whereas, the Department of Veterans Affairs is recouping monies other than those paid for disability severance (e.g. accrued leave) due to unitemized military final pay statements; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, support the issuance of regulations to require an itemized account of monies that make up military lump-sum discharge payments on final pay statements in order to insure that the Department of Veterans Affairs will initiate recoupment of only those monies paid for military disability severance.

RESOLUTION No. 213—LEGISLATIVE

TO PERMIT PROSPECTIVE ONLY CHANGES IN THE VA SCHEDULE FOR RATING DISABILITIES

Whereas, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) from time to time readjusts its Schedule for Rating Disabilities in accordance with experience as mandated by Section 355, Title 38 USC; and

Whereas, changes in the rating schedule are sometimes based on new methods of testing to conform to changes in medicine and technology; and

Whereas, a veteran who is on the VA compensation rolls when reexamined under these new methods of testing sometimes shows a lesser degree of disability without exhibiting any improvement in symptoms and pathology of the service-connected disorder; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, support legislation in the Congress that will permit the Department of Veterans Affairs to make prospective only changes in the 1945 Schedule for Rating Disabilities.

RESOLUTION No. 216—ADMINISTRATIVE

MAINTAIN INTEGRITY OF VA RATING SCHEDULE

Whereas, the DAV is aware that the General Accounting Office (GAO) has prepared a report for the Congress which suggests that compensation for certain disease entities may not be warranted since GAO essentially contends that they are largely genetically predetermined; and

Whereas, we believe that there is a preponderance of evolving sound scientific and accepted medical principles to support the conclusion that medical conditions can manifest themselves as disabling conditions due to the stresses and other environmental factors encountered on active military service; and

Whereas, there is already contained in the Schedule for Rating Disabilities and other regulations used by the Department of Veterans Affairs provisions for weighing the relative impact of a condition existing prior to service as related to the intensity of its exacerbation and permanent increase in disability by service; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, urge the VA to continue to decide all service connected claims on sound scientific and accepted medical principles, resolving any reasonable doubt in favor of the veteran.

RESOLUTION No. 268—LEGISLATIVE

IN OPPOSITION TO VETERANS BENEFIT REDUCTION/ELIMINATION PROPOSALS

Whereas, the General Accounting Office (GAO) in a recent report to the Congress of the United States made a proposal to require a direct performance of duty relationship for the awarding of service-connected disability compensation; and

Whereas, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs appointed a compensation reform committee within the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) using the GAO report and its proposal as a guide; and

Whereas, the compensation reform committee, in addition to consideration of the GAO suggestion, went much further in its consideration of a broad range of proposals that would reduce and/or eliminate veterans and survivors compensation and pension entitlements; and

Whereas, the DAV is charged with serving the best interests of our nation's wartime disabled veterans, their dependents and survivors; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, oppose any proposal that would reduce or eliminate entitlements for any disability that has a social and/or industrial impairment; and

Be it further resolved that the Disable American Veterans shall oppose any detrimental and fundamental change in the basic philosophy that presently serves as the foundation for extension of benefits based on service-connected injury or death.

RESOLUTION NO. 273—LEGISLATIVE

EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS FOR DEPENDENTS OF SERVICE-CONNECTED VETERANS RATED 80% OR MORE DISABLED

Whereas, Chapter 35, Title 38, U.S. Code, extends educational assistance to the dependents of service-connected veterans who are evaluated as permanently and totally disabled; and

Whereas, there are many service-connected veterans rated 80% and 90% disabled, whose dependents cannot afford to attend an institution of higher learning or pursue a vocational endeavor because of the reduced earning ability of such veterans; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, seek the enactment of legislation which would extend educational assistance under Chapter 35, Title 38, U.S. Code, to the dependents of veterans who have a service-connected disability rating of 80% or more.

RESOLUTION NO. 276—LEGISLATIVE

IMPROVE THE VA'S DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION PROGRAM

Whereas, the rates of Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) payments to eligible beneficiaries are based upon a deceased veteran's former military rank attained while on active duty service; and

Whereas, payments based upon military rank inherently create inequities between those at the top of the scale and those at the bottom; and

Whereas, linking DIC benefit payments for surviving spouses to a veteran's military rank attained many years ago does not adequately reflect today's standard of living; the loss of income based on current economic conditions; nor recognize the extent to which a service-connected disability impairs earning capacity over a lifetime; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, seek the enactment of legislation which would provide for a more equitable formula on which to base VA Dependency and Indemnity Compensation payments; and

Be it further resolved that DIC beneficiaries currently on the rolls shall have the option to continue receiving benefits under the current program or to elect benefits under any new proposal adopted by the Congress so long as such election is beneficial to the surviving spouse.

RESOLUTION NO. 281—LEGISLATIVE

OPPOSING A FREEZE IN THE RATES OF VA DISABILITY COMPENSATION BENEFITS

Whereas, no segment of our society is more deserving of federal benefits and services than those veterans who have incurred disabilities while serving their country honorably in time of need; and

Whereas, under the guise of "reducing federal expenditures," proposals have been advanced to freeze the current rates of VA disability compensation benefits; and

Whereas, the disability compensation benefits of service-connected disabled veterans should be periodically adjusted to reflect inflationary pressures and the rise in the costs of goods and services; and

Whereas, service-connected disabled veterans, who have suffered so much for their country, should not be expected to endure further hardships such as would occur should a cost of living adjustment be denied to their benefits; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, oppose any freeze in the VA disability compensation program if such program is singled out for such treatment among all other major federal entitlement programs.

RESOLUTION No. 282—LEGISLATIVE

TO ESTABLISH A HOUSEBOUND ALLOWANCE UNDER THE VA'S DEPENDENT PARENT DIC PROGRAM

Whereas, the monthly rate of Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) or nonservice-connected death pension payable to a surviving spouse may be increased if such spouse requires (1) the aid and attendance of another person or (2) is permanently housebound by reason of disability; and

Whereas, a parent in receipt of DIC and who requires the aid and attendance of another person may also receive an increased amount of DIC benefits due to such helplessness; and

Whereas, a parent, however, who is receiving DIC benefits and is permanently housebound by reason of disability is not eligible to receive increased benefits as the law does not now provide such a housebound allowance which is currently provided to eligible surviving spouses under the nonservice-connected death pension and DIC programs; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, support the enactment of legislation to establish a housebound allowance under the VA's Dependent Parent DIC Program thereby providing equal benefits to similarly situated VA beneficiaries.

RESOLUTION No. 283—LEGISLATIVE

TO ESTABLISH SECTION 3107, TITLE 38, U.S. CODE AS THE SOLE MEANS TO COMPEL DIVISION OF VA BENEFITS

Whereas, a primary purpose of Section 3101 of Title 38, U.S. Code, exempting VA benefits from taxation and claims of creditors and preventing their exposure to legal process, should be to maximize national uniformity in the protection afforded to VA benefits; and

Whereas, a necessarily implied purpose of Section 315 of Title 38, U.S. Code, is to provide support for dependents of VA beneficiaries; and

Whereas, a primary purpose of Section 3107 of Title 38, U.S. Code, empowering the VA Administrator to apportion VA benefits where a veteran's spouse and/or children live separately, should be to provide the means for achieving both uniformity of protection and support for dependents in such living circumstances; and

Whereas, the U.S. Supreme Court's 1987 decision in *Rose* v. *Rose*, authorizing courts to compel veterans to pay VA benefits to dependents living separately, creates substantial risks that VA benefits will be divided on a non-uniform basis; and

Whereas, extending the protection afforded VA benefits under Section 3101 to claims of dependents living separately would enhance the likelihood of uniform treatment of VA benefits while preserving for such dependents both the availability of apportionment under Section 3107 for VA benefits and the availability of judicial process for veterans' assets not attributable to VA benefits; Now

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, support legislation to amend Section 3101(A) of Title 38, U.S. Code, to provide that, except as provided by federal statute, payments of benefits under any law administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs shall not be liable to attachment, levy or seizure by or under any legal or equitable process whatever, including court orders of any sort whatsoever, before or after receipt by the beneficiary.

RESOLUTION No. 284—LEGISLATIVE

TO EXEMPT COMPENSATION AND DIC PAYMENTS FROM THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 3113, TITLE 38, U.S. CODE

Whereas, Section 3113, Title 38, U.S. Code, places a limitation on the amount of VA disability compensation and DIC payments that may be received by certain persons who are convicted of felonies and incarcerated in penal institutions; and

Whereas, this is considered by the DAV to be an act of "double jeopardy" providing two separate punishments for a single offense; and

Whereas, there are other categories of federal beneficiaries and annuitants who are allowed to draw full benefits even though they are convicted of felonies and incarcerated in penal institutions; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, support legislation that would exempt VA compensation and DIC payments from the provisions of Section 3113, Title 38, U.S. Code.

RESOLUTION No. 285—LEGISLATIVE

TO PROVIDE FOR A NATIONAL CEMETERY IN EVERY STATE

Whereas, there are many states and regions of the United States without National Cemetery facilities; and

Whereas, federal and state land ideally suited for cemetery development is available in many states; and

Whereas, veterans should be entitled to burial in a National Cemetery reasonably close to their homes; and

Whereas, VA's current policy of regionalization does not always insure that eligible deceased veterans can be interred close to their families; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, support legislation to provide for at least one open National Cemetery in each state to insure that all veterans may be buried in a National Cemetery reasonably close to their homes.

RESOLUTION No. 286—LEGISLATIVE

IN SUPPORT OF THE VA HOME LOAN GUARANTY PROGRAM

Whereas, the Department of Veterans Affairs Home Loan Guaranty Program was established in 1944 to assist eligible veterans obtain affordable housing; and

Whereas, more than 13 million veterans have used the VA Home Loan Guaranty Program to purchase a home; and

Whereas, in recent years the housing and mortgage industries have experienced volatile financial conditions due to various economic factors; and

Whereas, these conditions have negatively impacted upon the VA Home Loan Guaranty Program and the use of the program by veterans, including service-connected disabled veterans; and

Whereas, as a result of such conditions a number of recommendations have been proposed that would impact negatively upon eligible veterans' use of the program; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, continue to support a strong and viable VA Home Loan Guaranty Program available to all eligible veterans.

RESOLUTION No. 287—LEGISLATIVE

SUPPORTING LEGISLATION TO MAINTAIN VA CONTROL OVER ITS RECORDS PROCESSING CENTER

Whereas, there exists a concentrated effort on the part of the General Services Administration to assume jurisdiction over the St. Louis, Missouri, Records Processing Center (RPC); and

Whereas, RPC operations are currently controlled by the Department of Veterans Affairs, this being necessary as that agency has a daily need for immediate access and transfer of VA records with respect to claims for VA benefits; and

Whereas, a GSA takeover of RPC would greatly impede the VA claims adjudication process and, in fact, destroy the "one stop" agency concept that has been developed for VA claimants; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, support the enactment of legislation to provide that the records of all active or potentially active claims for benefits under laws administered by the VA shall be maintained by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

RESOLUTION NO. 288—LEGISLATIVE

OPPOSING THE DISSOLUTION OF THE MILITARY COMMISSARY SYSTEM

Whereas, the President's Private Sector Survey on Cost Control—the so-called Grace Commission—recommended that all stateside military commissaries be closed to save taxpayer dollars; and

Whereas, some members of Congress have proposed to phase-out the Military Commissary System; and

Whereas, the Commissary System is of vital importance to the personnel of our Armed Forces; and

Whereas, active duty personnel, their dependents, retired military and disabled veterans who live on fixed incomes should have high quality food at fair and reasonable prices; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, vigorously oppose any proposal to phase-out the Armed Forces Commissary System.

RESOLUTION NO. 291—LEGISLATIVE

TO EXCLUDE MILITARY DISABILITY SEVERANCE PAY FROM FEDERAL INCOME TAX

Whereas, the enactment of Public Law 94-455, the Tax Reform Act of 1976, created an anomaly whereby military disability severance pay is considered taxable income for Internal Revenue Service (IRS) purposes; and

Whereas, under IRS regulations, promulgated based upon Public Law 94-455, military disability severance pay is now considered a lump sum readjustment benefit; and

Whereas, veterans who receive disability severance pay from the Armed Forces and who make claims with the Department of Veterans Affairs are taxed on the amount of such pay and may not receive the VA benefits to which they may otherwise be entitled until 100% of the lump sum severance pay has been recouped by the VA; and

Whereas, VA compensation payments made to veterans who have incurred a disability while on active military duty are exempt from taxes; and

Whereas, the effect of such action by the Internal Revenue Service amounts to a tax upon the payment of benefits for disability incurred in or aggravated by active military service; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, seek the enactment of legislation which would expressly prohibit a tax levied on military disability severance pay.

RESOLUTION NO. 292—LEGISLATIVE

TO EXTEND SPACE AVAILABLE AIR TRAVEL ABOARD MILITARY AIRCRAFT TO 100% SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABLED VETERANS

Whereas, 100% totally disabled service-connected veterans have sacrificed greatly in terms of their impairments and loss of earnings capacity; and

Whereas, more than any other living group of Americans, such veterans should be eligible for all benefits and privileges that the Congress may provide; and

Whereas, such totally disabled veterans should be extended the same privileges as other personnel currently authorized to utilize space available military air travel; and

Whereas, the extension of such travel to totally disabled service-connected veterans would not place any additional burden upon the administration of this program; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, seek the enactment of legislation which would extend space available air travel aboard military aircraft to all 100% service-connected disabled veterans to the same extent and under the same conditions as is currently provided to retired military personnel.

Resolution No. 293—Legislative

TO EXTEND MILITARY COMMISSARY AND EXCHANGE PRIVILEGES AND SPACE AVAILABLE AIR TRAVEL TO CERTAIN SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABLED VETERANS

Whereas, disabled enlisted personnel who were discharged from military service prior to October 1, 1949—the effective date of the Career Compensation Act—are not entitled to disability retirement from the Armed Forces; and

Whereas, many service-connected disabled veterans have been deprived of the various benefits to which all other disabled retired military personnel have enjoyed; and

Whereas, due to inflation, service-connected disabled veterans receiving VA compensation as a sole source of income are experiencing difficulties in keeping pace with the increased cost of living; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, support legislation which would extend military commissary and exchange privileges, as well as space available air travel aboard military aircraft, to enlisted personnel who were discharged from active military service prior to October 1, 1949, for a service-incurred injury or disease rated by the Veterans Administration as 30% or more disabling and who retained at least a 30% evaluation for a period of five years from the date of separation from active duty.

Resolution No. 294—Legislative

REQUESTING ADEQUATE FUNDING FOR THE POSTAL SERVICE REVENUE FOREGONE FUND

Whereas, Congress has historically provided preferred postal rates for charitable nonprofit organizations so that such organizations can direct greater financial resources into their charitable activities; and

Whereas, the current Administration has attempted to severely reduce the funding provided to the Postal Service revenue foregone fund; and

Whereas, the Disabled American Veterans is a nonprofit charitable organization devoted to the cause of aiding and assisting all service-connected disabled veterans, their dependents and survivors; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, seek the enactment of adequate appropriations for the funding of the Postal Service revenue foregone fund.

Resolution No. 297—Legislative

IN SUPPORT OF A REASONABLE LIMITATION ON LIABILITY ARISING OUT OF DAV PROGRAMS OF SERVICE

Whereas, the DAV, its Department and Chapter affiliates, have established an envious record of providing an array of services to our nation's veterans, their dependents and survivors; and

Whereas, for more than sixty years the DAV has freely assisted countless numbers of veterans and their dependents in the perfection of claims before the Department of Veterans Affairs and other federal and state agencies; and

Whereas, DAV Departments and Chapters actively participate in the Department of Veterans Affairs Volunteer Services (VAVS) Program, contributing millions of hours of valuable service and assistance to hospitalized veterans; and

Whereas, the DAV, its Departments and Chapters, recognizing the need for increased aid and service to our aging veteran population have established an Older Veterans Assistance Program (OVAP); and

Whereas, the DAV and other charitable organizations are facing a serious compromise in their ability to provide such services due to the prohibitive cost and/or the inability to obtain adequate liability insurance coverage; and

Whereas, this situation can only be viewed as a national tragedy affecting the "Good Samaritan" efforts of all charitable organizations; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29-August 2, 1990, support legislation to set a reasonable limit on certain liability arising out of the free programs of service and assistance provided by the Disabled American Veterans.

RESOLUTION NO. 298—LEGISLATIVE

TO AMEND TITLE 38, USC, TO AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS' VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION TO ACCEPT GIFTS, DEVICES AND BEQUESTS

Whereas, VA General Counsel has interpreted current law to preclude the acceptance by VA's Veterans Benefits Administration of gifts, bequests, and devices; and

Whereas, as a result of continued budget cuts, the VA's Veterans Benefits Administration's ability to provide quality, timely service to our nation's veteran population has steadily declined; and

Whereas, current law permits the VA's Veterans Health Services and Research Administration to accept devices, bequests and gifts for the benefit of patients in VA hospitals or homes; and

Whereas, donations made to VA's Veterans Health Services and Research Administration has enhanced the VA's ability to provide high-quality care for our nation's disabled veterans; Now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Disabled American Veterans in National Convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29–August 2, 1990, seek the enactment of legislation to permit the VA's Veterans Benefits Administration to accept gifts, bequests, and devices designed to enhance VA's Veterans Benefits Administration's ability to provide quality and timely assistance to our nation's veteran population.

Commander CARDOSI. And now I'd like to introduce this next gentleman, who does an outstanding job for the DAV—he's the president of the DAV National Service Foundation—for his report. Mr. Richard J. Cosgriff. [Applause.]

Mr. RICHARD J. COSGRIFF. The delay that I had coming up was to sign this check for $14,000, which we have to turn over to Rick Heilman. So I'll be excused for signing that.

Commander Cardosi, this is the report of the National Service Foundation for the year 1990 for our convention here today in Anaheim. I am pleased to report to you on the good health of our National Service Foundation.

This past year has been marked by our constant growth through your dedicated support. And I want to remind you that all our growth is from you, our members, and don't hesitate to let your chapter members know that when you get back home.

The total assets of the foundation as appearing in our official audit has reached an amount of $5,963,730. Our year for recording contributions on the honor roll is from January 1st through December 31st.

We wish to commend Art Wilson and his national service officers as the contributions they secured made a positive impact on this year's growth. The amount for which the national service officers throughout the country were directly responsible for is $256,630, and we do appreciate your efforts.

All of our funds are deposited with the Trust Division of the Fifth Third Bank in Cincinnati Ohio. Investments are conservative in nature, primarily in safe and secured government bonds.

The annual foundation's audit covering the period from January 1st, 1989 through December 31st, 1989 has been completed by Deloitte and Touche. It used to be Deloitte, Haskins and Sells.

The Perpetual Rehabilitation Fund increased by $443,600 in the year ending December 31st, 1989. One hundred and three awards have been presented to the foundation donors for their generosity during 1989. A complete listing of these prominent contributors to the foundation is on Page 1 of the honor roll book that you received in your registration. This is all included in your packet, and

I would be remiss if I didn't stress a little bit more on that 103. Forty certificates of commitment were awarded to 21 chapters, one auxiliary unit and 18 departments.

The Judge John B. McClaren Medal was presented to 39 recipients. These medal recipients saw their total contribution reach at least $1,000 during the year 1989.

Contributions that totaled at least $3,000 during the year were earned by 12 donors, and that's called the John B. McClaren Award.

There were also 12 exceptional supporters of the foundation, whose contributions totaled $5,000 or more, and these donors received the award. This was on the Grand Memorial Award in Washington, D. C., and whenever you're in Washington, D. C. and you stop at the National Headquarters, be sure and look at this plaque that's on the wall with the names on it, and the names on that, and the chapters and departments, are those that contributed $5,000 or more.

And these are the ones that were added this year: Glendale Auxiliary 20 of Arizona, a $5,000 contribution; Department of New Hampshire, $5,050;

Craydock Chapter 41, Department of Virginia, $5,275; and the Houston Chapter 9, Department of Texas—so there's still money left in Texas—$5,485.

Receiving the One Star Award—this is for chapters or departments or individuals. When they exceed $10,000, they get an additional star added by their name. Receiving the One Star Award were the Department of Michigan, whose contribution reached $10,150 and the Department of Massachusetts, whose contributions totaled $11,100.

And Warner Ayers Chapter 34, Department of Ohio received a Two Star Award when its total contributions reached $25,090, and the Department of Colorado also received a Two Star Award in recognition of its total contribution of $30,110.56.

The National Order of Trench Rats' contribution last year increased our total Legislative Fund to $164,793.86. And such contribution from the National Order of Trench Rats is specifically given for the purpose of supporting the DAV legislative goals.

The interest earned on this fund during the past year amounted to $14,617. That's the check I just signed. We wish to present to Commander Cardosi this check in this amount to help carry out the legislative program under the able direction of Rick Heilman and his staff.

We have continued our program of upgrading the office furniture of the national service offices, and we have also voted to upgrade the fax machines in the national service offices. Such expenditures in support of the service program of the organization are in keeping within the purposes of the foundation, and since 1986 we have expended over $700,000 for the upgrading of these national service offices.

Officers whose terms expired this year were unanimously reelected to the board for another term. Those included Past National Commander Cecil Stevenson, National Service Officer Bill Leach, Past National Adjutant Denvel Adams.

We are pleased to announce that Miss Nancy O'Brien of the National Headquarters staff has been appointed as administrator to coordinate all activities of the foundation. She will be a most welcome addition to our group.

As president of the foundation, I am joined in my services to you by such distinguished DAV members as National Commander Vernon Cardosi, and we appreciate what he's done for us during the past year; National Adjutant Charles Joeckel; National Finance Committee Chairman Don Pouliot; Past National Commander Cecil Stevenson and vice-president of the board; William E. Leach, secretary-treasurer of the board; and Past National Adjutant Dale Adams is a trustee.

I wish to recognize their efforts in behalf of the foundation to enable us to give you this favorable report.

Also, I wish to recognize and thank Daryl Richardson, Sandy Buchanan and Kay Ribbon of the national staffs for their valuable assistance during the past year.

Comrade Commander, this concludes my report. I do have a couple of contributions that I received here: One from Don Pouliot for $100; another from Barry Holliday of California for $100 to add to his amount; the NOTR 331, $50; and Chapter 144, California, $100. And a check was received a few days ago in the amount of $10 from Auxiliary Unit 26 in Arkansas in memory of Sue Bell.

Commander, I would like to move for the adoption of this report.

Commander CARDOSI. Thank you. It's been moved we adopt the report of Richard Cosgriff, president of the DAV Service Foundation. Do I hear a second?

Mr. MCCARTIN. McCartin, Mike 3. Bill McCartin of Baltimore Chapter Number 1, Maryland, seconds the report.

Commander CARDOSI. Thank you. It's been moved and duly seconded. Is there any discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor, signify by saying——

MEMBER. For the record, I'd just like to make the membership aware that New Jersey received the star also this year, and it wasn't mentioned, in regard to the donations.

Commander CARDOSI. Okay. That's correct.

All those in favor, signify by saying Aye; opposed. So ordered.

[The above-mentioned report follows:]

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS
NATIONAL SERVICE FOUNDATION

Financial Statements and Independent
Auditors' Report for the Years Ended
December 31, 1989 and 1988

Deloitte &
Touche

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Disabled American Veterans
National Service Foundation:

We have audited the accompanying balance sheets of the Disabled American Veterans National Service Foundation (the "Foundation") as of December 31, 1989 and 1988 and the related statements of support, revenue, and expenses and changes in fund balances, and of cash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements and the supplemental schedules discussed below are the responsibility of the Foundation's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, such financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Foundation at December 31, 1989 and 1988, and the results of its operations and changes in its fund balances, and its cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Our audits were made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The supplemental schedules of the Foundation's functional expenses for the years ended December 31, 1989 and 1988 (page 9) are presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such supplemental schedules have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audits of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, are fairly stated in all material respects when considered in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Deloitte & Touche

March 30, 1990

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS NATIONAL SERVICE FOUNDATION

BALANCE SHEETS
DECEMBER 31, 1989 AND 1988

ASSETS	NOTES	1989	1988
CURRENT ASSETS:			
Cash		$ 8,253	$ 19,734
Note receivable	3	11,379	8,556
Interest receivable		125,960	108,637
Prepaid expenses		3,833	420
Total current assets		149,425	137,347
INVESTMENTS:			
Marketable securities (market value of $5,846,078 in 1989 and $4,916,888 in 1988)	4	5,794,750	4,940,191
Land		1,400	2,200
Total		5,796,150	4,942,391
NOTE RECEIVABLE	3	18,052	49,109
OFFICE EQUIPMENT - net of accumulated depreciation of $1,972 in 1989 and $1,764 in 1988	2	103	311
TOTAL ASSETS		$5,963,730	$5,129,158
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES:			
Accrued transfer - NSO program		$ 375,000	$ 200,000
Due to D.A.V., Inc.		10,721	10,647
Other liabilities		6,695	1,406
Total current liabilities		392,416	212,053
FUND BALANCES:			
Restricted Fund Balance - National Order of Trench Rats, D.A.V. Legislative Program	2	118,428	118,428
Unrestricted Fund Balances:			
General		1,613,217	1,417,087
Board Designated - Perpetual Rehab Fund	2	3,839,669	3,381,590
Total unrestricted fund balances		5,452,886	4,798,677
Total fund balances		5,571,314	4,917,105
TOTAL		$5,963,730	$5,129,158

See notes to financial statements.

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS NATIONAL SERVICE FOUNDATION

STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT, REVENUE, AND EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1989 AND 1988

	1989				1988			
		NATIONAL ORDER OF TRENCH RATS (Restricted)				NATIONAL ORDER OF TRENCH RATS (Restricted)		
	GENERAL FUND (Unrestricted)	PRINCIPAL	INCOME	TOTAL ALL FUNDS	GENERAL FUND (Unrestricted)	PRINCIPAL	INCOME	TOTAL ALL FUNDS
PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUES:								
Public support - contributions and bequests	$ 458,079			$ 458,079	$ 453,608			$ 453,608
Revenues:								
Interest income	471,115		$ 10,721	481,836	402,582		$ 10,647	413,229
Gain on sales of investment securities	8,452			8,452	53			53
Total revenues	479,567		10,721	490,288	402,635		10,647	413,282
Total public support and revenues	937,646		10,721	948,367	856,243		10,647	866,890
EXPENSES AND TRANSFERS:								
Supporting services - Management and general	53,969			53,969	33,380			33,380
Transfers to D.A.V. National Headquarters	229,468		10,721	240,189	203,118		10,647	213,765
Total expenses and transfers	283,437		10,721	294,158	236,498		10,647	247,145
PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUES OVER EXPENSES AND TRANSFERS	654,209			654,209	619,745			619,745
FUND BALANCES, BEGINNING OF YEAR	4,798,677	$118,428		4,917,105	4,178,932	$118,428		4,297,360
FUND BALANCES, END OF YEAR	$5,452,886	$118,428	$ 0	$5,571,314	$4,798,677	$118,428	$ 0	$4,917,105

See notes to financial statements.

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS NATIONAL SERVICE FOUNDATION

STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1989 AND 1988

	1989	1988
OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Public support and revenues over expenses and transfers	$ 654,209	$ 619,745
Adjustments to reconcile excess of public support and revenues over expenses and transfers to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation	208	208
Gain on sales of investment securities	(8,452)	(53)
Increase in interest receivable	(17,323)	(23,338)
(Increase) decrease in prepaid expenses	(3,413)	230
Increase in accrued expenses and transfers	180,289	69,612
Other	874	(727)
Net adjustments	152,183	45,932
Net cash provided by operating activities	806,392	665,677
INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Purchases of marketable securities	(4,191,088)	(2,908,714)
Proceeds from collection of note receivable	28,234	25,958
Proceeds from sales and maturities of marketable securities	3,344,981	2,224,583
Net cash used in investing activities	(817,873)	(658,173)
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH	(11,481)	7,504
CASH AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	19,734	12,230
CASH AT END OF YEAR	$ 8,253	$ 19,734

See notes to financial statements.

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS NATIONAL SERVICE FOUNDATION

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1989 AND 1988

1. NATURE OF OPERATIONS

The Disabled American Veterans National Service Foundation (the "Foundation") is the incorporated trustee for the Disabled American Veterans, Inc. The purpose of the Foundation, as set forth in Article 3 of the Articles of Incorporation is as follows:

"To receive and maintain a fund or funds of personal or real property, or both, to solicit and obtain contributions from the public, and, subject to the restrictions set forth in the Articles of Incorporation, to use and apply the whole or any part of the income and principal of said fund exclusively for the promotion of social welfare (including incidental nonpartisan legislative activity in furtherance of such purpose) within the meaning of Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or corresponding section of any future Federal tax code, primarily for the assistance, aid, maintenance, care, support, and rehabilitation of disabled veterans and their dependents, either directly or by contributions to the Disabled American Veterans, a Congressionally-chartered organization."

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounting and reporting policies and practices of the Foundation conform to generally accepted accounting principles. The following is a description of the more significant accounting policies.

The Foundation uses the accrual method of accounting.

Donated assets are recorded at their fair market value at the time of the donation. All contributions and bequests to the Foundation are designated by the Board of Directors (the "Board") for permanent investment in the Perpetual Rehab Fund as a reserve for future needs. Investment income derived from these invested funds is used for current operation of the Foundation or appropriated for use by the Disabled American Veterans, Inc. Revenues of the National Order of Trench Rats D.A.V. Legislative Program Fund are restricted for use by the Disabled American Veterans' Legislative Program.

Marketable securities consist of corporate and Federal bonds which are stated at cost, adjusted for the amortization of premiums and the accretion of discounts. Such securities are carried in this manner, as the Foundation has the ability, and it is management's intent to hold such securities as long-term investments based upon their current assessment of reasonably possible and probable events. Premiums and discounts on these securities are amortized and accreted by a method which approximates the interest method. Gains and losses on the sale of investment securities are recognized based upon the specific identification method and are reflected as a separate component of revenue.

Office equipment is stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is calculated on a straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the related assets.

For the purposes of reporting cash flows, the Foundation does not consider cash equivalents to include marketable securities held for long-term investment purposes.

3. NOTE RECEIVABLE

On December 3, 1984, the Foundation sold land for its carrying value of $200,000. Proceeds of the sale were in the form of a 10% mortgage note receivable for $130,000 due in annual installments of $14,322 commencing December 3, 1985. The fourth and fifth payments on the mortgage note were received in December 1988 and 1989, respectively. These payments consisted of $8,364 of interest income and $5,958 of principal for 1988 and $5,766 of interest income and $8,556 of principal for 1989. The second through fourth payments included an additional $20,000 which was applied toward principal. The fifth payment included an additional $19,678 and it too was applied toward principal.

4. MARKETABLE SECURITIES

The cost and approximate market values of marketable securities at December 31, 1989 and 1988 are as follows:

	..........1989........		.........1988.........	
	Cost	Market Value	Cost	Market Value
Cash Equivalents	$ 629,734	$ 629,734	$ 710,147	$ 710,147
Corporate Bonds	1,986,471	1,947,409	1,041,177	1,016,507
Federal Bonds	3,178,545	3,268,935	3,188,867	3,190,234
Total	$5,794,750	$5,846,078	$4,940,191	$4,916,888

Aggregate unrealized gains and losses related to marketable securities at December 31 are as follows:

	1989	1988
Gains	$ 90,390	$ 1,367
Losses	(39,062)	(24,670)
Net unrealized gain/(loss)	$ 51,328	$(23,303)

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS NATIONAL SERVICE FOUNDATION

FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1989 AND 1988

	SUPPORTING SERVICES	
	1989	1988
Travel and related expenses	$12,038	$13,167
Insurance	958	230
Depreciation	208	208
Professional services	3,250	5,600
Printing, postage and supplies	24,019	1,218
Secretarial services	800	1,300
Taxes and registration fees	2,808	116
Investment trustee fees	8,920	7,886
Miscellaneous	968	3,655
TOTAL	$53,969	$33,380

Commander **Cardosi**. Thank you for that fine report, Mr. Cosgriff. And first of all, Mr. Cosgriff, as I mentioned before, I'm going to increase my donation this year by a few dollars, because thanks to some fellow who'll be nameless—it's like taking candy from a baby—bet against the California team at the World Series this year. So I took him for $150 and I haven't the heart to take this money, so I'm going to turn it over to the National Foundation.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Well, we'll swap checks. [Applause.]

Commander **Cardosi**. Thank you. This check is a little bit bigger. Thank you. I accept this check. Thank you very much.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. The commander wouldn't tell me who he won $150 from, but I received a check here for $150 from Vernon Cardosi, the national commander, and another check here from Walter D. Hyde, and if anyone has any contributions they'd like to make to the foundation, this would be the time to do it.

I have another check here from Stan Pealer for $100. This is from the Department of Nevada, from the department commander, for $100. And this is also from Chapter 12 in Las Vegas, Nevada, for $100. I have one here from Chapter 9, Houston, Texas for $500; and another from Chapter 9 from Houston, Texas for $500 in the name of Charles "Butch" Joeckel. The first one was in the name of John Charlton; and the next one for $500, also from Houston, for Denvel Adams. And a check here for $500 in memory of all Chapter 9 deceased.

Mr. **Brown**. Jim Brown, commander, Department of Pennsylvania. I'd like to present you a check for $1,000.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you very much, sir. This is a check for $1,000 from the Department of Pennsylvania.

Mr. **Jones**. Dick, we've got a check here from the Department of California for $1,000.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. That's from Department Commander Dick Jones. Thanks, Dick.

Mr. **Jones**. I've got a fellow behind me that's got a check for a small donation from one of our chapters.

NEC **Pouliot**. Comrades, Don Pouliot, Chapter 2, San Diego, California. It's a pleasure on behalf of the 8,000 members of Chapter 2, San Diego, to present this check to this worthwhile cause for $25,000. [Applause.]

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you, Don.

Mr. **Ramirez**. Nash Ramirez, past department commander, California, a check in the amount of $5,000 from the Disabled American Veterans in Fresno, California.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you, Nash. Thank you very much, Nash, for $5,000.

Mr. **Eichman**. Tom Eichman, department commander, Department of Minnesota. I have a check for $300 in memory of Joseph Mulcannon, past department commander.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you very much.

Mr. **Fisher**. Craig Fisher, Minneapolis Chapter Number 1, past department commander of Minnesota, contributes $210 in behalf of the past department commanders and auxiliary commanders of Minnesota.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you very much.

Mr. **Lynch**. John Lynch, on behalf of Chapter 1 in the Department of Minnesota, Chapter 1, we have a check here for $7,500.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you very much, sir. This is $7,500, and if you look in your honor roll, you'll see a good number of checks that came in over the years from Minnesota.

Mr. **Webster**. Ken Webster, adjutant for Chapter 1. In addition to the $7,500, I'm proud to announce that we have an additional $5,000, to give a grand total of $12,500 from Chapter Number 1, home of Membership Man.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you.

This is a check from Steve Remsen for $20. Thank you, Steve.

This is in honor of the flag team sponsored by Chapter 51 from Lebanon, Missouri and Dugout 517, National Order of Trench Rats, a check for $340. Thank you very much, sir.

Mr. **Pomeroy**. Bob Pomeroy, Wichita, Kansas. On behalf of Chapter Number 4, we have $150.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you very much.

Mr. **Pomeroy**. Don't run me off yet.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Oh, I'm not going to.

Mr. **Pomeroy**. The great State of Kansas, you know, is the air capital of the world, but that's insignificant because it's also the home of Charles D. Luttjohann. So in behalf of Disabled American Veterans Thrift Stores, Wichita, here's $5,000.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you very much, sir.

Mr. **West**. Curtis West, state commander, Department of Florida. On behalf of the department, I would like to present you this check for $100 in the name of Tommy Simms, past department commander.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you very much, sir.

Member. On behalf of the Piscataqua Chapter Number 4, Newington, New Hampshire, we'd like to present you a check for $2,500 on behalf of all the deceased members.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you, sir.

Member. And we have one here from our Unit 4 Auxiliary in behalf of their deceased auxiliaries for $100.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you very much.

That's $2,600 from New Hampshire.

Mr. **Chumley**. Tom Chumley, department commander from the Commonwealth of Kentucky. I'm proud to present you a check for $1,000.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you very much, sir.

Mr. **Taaffe**. I'm Tom Taaffe, commander of the Ernestine Schumann Heink Chapter 2 at Kansas City, Missouri, and upon behalf of those members I present you with these checks in the amount of $5,000.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. It's two checks for $5,000. Thank you very much, sir.

Mr. **Fox**. Paul Fox from Overland Park, Kansas, Chapter 34. I would like to present you two checks. Okay? One is $500 in memory of our past commander and chapter officers, and another $500 in memory of our charter members. Okay? One thousand dollars.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. One thousand dollars from Kansas. Thank you.

Mr. **Garcia**. Sabino Garcia, Department of New Mexico. I have a check here for $1,000.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you very much, sir.

Mr. **Garcia**. It's good anywhere but the bank. [Laughter.]

Mr. **Cosgriff**. He said, "Don't take it to a savings and loan." This is from New Mexico, $1,000.

Mr. **Schlicker**. Charles Schlicker, senior vice, Department of Nebraska, $100 in behalf of Phil Waters, past department commander.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you very much.

Mr. **Chapman**. Bob Chapman, commander, Chapter Number 1, St. Louis, Missouri. We have a check for $1,000.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. One thousand dollars.

Mr. **Taggart**. Mr. President, I'm Ron Taggart, department commander of the great State of Missouri, and that's the home of Past National Commander Stan Pealer. We are very proud to present you this check for $500.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Five hundred dollars. Thank you very much, sir.

Member. In memory of Past Department Commander Vernon Cunningham, Department of Arizona, our normal $100 contribution.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you, sir.

Mr. **Hoopes**. Sloan Hoopes, junior PDC, Department of Virginia. It's my pleasure to present a check for $1,000 from our Department Memorial Trust Fund.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you very much, sir. A thousand dollars.

Mr. **Woolwine**. Frank Woolwine, commander, Disabled American Veterans, Chapter 3, Roanoke, Virginia. Sir, H. H. McKenzie Chapter Number 3, Disabled American Veterans, Roanoke, Virginia is totally in support of the DAV service activities. We believe that the DAV's National Service Program is the backbone of our great organization and absent the effectiveness of the DAV national service officers, we would likely cease to be the viable organization that we are today.

On behalf of the members of the H. H. McKenzie Chapter 3, please accept our check in the amount of $1,000 offered in perpetuation of DAV National Service Programs. In doing so, we wish to recognize the exceptional work being performed by our DAV National Service Office staff in Roanoke, Virginia and also by our newest DAV office at the Court of Veterans Appeals, and request that $500 be earmarked for each office respectively, sir.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you very much. One thousand dollars.

Mr. **Zysk**. Frank Zysk, DEC from Chapter 14 in Salem, Virginia. It gives our chapter great pleasure to present this check in the amount of $250 in honor of Mr. Ralph Smith, director, U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs Regional Office in Roanoke, Virginia, on the occasion of his retirement.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you very much. Thank you, sir.

Mr. **Wiggins**. Bill Wiggins, Chapter 19, Danville, Virginia. Dick, in my haste to get to California, I inadvertently left the check on the dresser at home. I am, however, submitting our pledge for $500 to be mailed to you this next weekend.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. We'll see that Steve follows up on this and sends out a telegram every morning for $500. Thank you.

Member. On behalf of Auxiliary Unit 20 out of Glendale, Arizona, I present you this check for $500.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. I've already read where your auxiliary gave $5,000, and here's an additional $500. Thank you very much.

Mr. **Tannenbaum**. Dave Tannenbaum, Prince William County Chapter 15, Manassas, Virginia is pleased to donate $100 to the National Service Foundation.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you very much, sir.

Mr. **Wimberly**. Wayne Wimberly, Blind Veterans National Chapter, two checks; one for $150 and another for $100 in memory of four deceased blind veterans.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you very much. Two hundred fifty dollars from the Blind Veterans.

This is a member of our chapter, senior vice-commander.

Mr. **Fellows**. Thank you. Will Fellows, Chapter 2, San Diego, in memory of my deceased father, a World War I veteran, and I've added $10 to make up for the compensation for inflation to my annual donation.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. A hundred and ten dollars.

Mr. **Devenish**. Joel Devenish, Chapter 43, Gardena. Here's a check for a hundred dollars.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you very much, Joel.

Mr. **Seetoo**. Wilfred Seetoo, adjutant for Azusa, California Chapter 64, a hundred dollars in memory of our deceased members.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you very much, sir.

Mr. **Brown**. Buzz Brown, chaplain, DAV Chapter Number 70, Escondido, California, a check for $300.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you very much.

Mr. **Conroy**. Bill Conroy, president, Colorado Lifers. I have two checks; one in the amount of $790.16 from the Colorado Lifers, and another check for $100 in the name of Dorothy C. Long.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you very much, sir. A total amount of $890.16.

Mr. **Stecklein**. Paul Stecklein, commander, Murphy Borelli, Denver, Colorado. On behalf of the members, we're happy to give $1,000.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. This is the chapter that keeps giving us competition in membership. Thank you. One thousand dollars.

Mr. **Wiedeman**. John Wiedeman, department adjutant. On behalf of the Department Memorial Fund and its president, Peter L. Dye, I'd like to present a check for $10,000.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you. You heard him correctly. It was $10,000.

Member. This is from Allegheny-Kiski Valley, Pennsylvania Chapter 53 for the National Service Foundation, $100.

These are for Commander Cardosi from Allegheny-Kiski Valley. I have two checks here, a hundred dollars apiece; one for the George Seal Foundation, VAVS, and the other is for a hundred dollars for the Scholarship Fund.

Commander **Cardosi**. Thank you.

Member. God bless you, both of you.

Mr. **Morgan**. I'm Jim Morgan from Kansas City, Missouri, Heart of America, Chapter 2. Just a small check, $50.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. It's a lot of money, $50. Thank you very much.

Mr. TENEN. Hello, Mr. President. I have a check, personal check for $200 in memory of our daughter. And you'll find ideas. In California in 1971, and last year you promised that I'd get a little present for you, from you, and I have it right here. Thank you.

Mr. COSGRIFF. Okay, Jack. Thank you very much. Jack Tenen from California, an additional $200. Thank you.

Mr. HOLMES. John Holmes, Chapter 17, Evans City, Missouri, a hundred dollars in memory of our past members, Chapter 17.

Mr. COSGRIFF. Thank you very much.

Mr. ROY. My name is James Roy. I'm Chapter 15, Brattleboro, Vermont. We have a check for $200 in memory of our past commander, John Cleveland.

Mr. COSGRIFF. Thank you very much.

Mr. GILPIN. John Gilpin, state commander of the Department of Massachusetts. On behalf of the department of 52,265 members, I present this check to the National Service Foundation for $2,000.

Mr. COSGRIFF. Thank you very much. Thank you, Commander.

Mr. COX. John Cox, commander for the Department of Arkansas, which incidentally has three past national commanders, Ewing Mays, Cecil Stevenson and Chad Colley, proudly presents this check for $1,000 from the Department of Arkansas.

Mr. COSGRIFF. Thank you, sir. One thousand dollars.

Mr. WALLACE. Edward L. Wallace, past commander, Department of Missouri. I have a check here for $100 in memory of my youngest brother, and I have another check for $100 in memory of a very good friend of mine, Arthur Peterson.

Mr. COSGRIFF. Thank you very much, sir.

Mr. PRIORIE. Sir, my name is William A. Priorie. I'm the senior vice-commander, Wisconsin. On behalf of Frank Regalla and the department, I'd like to present you a check for $1,000. In behalf of the chapter, which I am commander of, Chapter 19, I'd like to present a check for $500 in the name of our national service officers, Phil Kreisa, Donald Savage and Clyde Doherty.

Mr. COSGRIFF. They deserve it. Thank you very much.

Mr. PRIORIE. And, sir, I have a check—my wife told me to make sure that I get it in your hands—in my name as commander of Chapter 19 for $100.

Mr. COSGRIFF. Thank you very much.

NEC SPALDING. I'm Russ Spalding, 10th District. I've got a check here in memory of Mrs. Boniface Maile for $150.

Mr. COSGRIFF. Thank you.

Mr. DOSS. Curtis Doss from Pearl Harbor Chapter Number 16, Johnson City, Kansas. We have a check for $302 in memory of Corporal Grant Hill, Congressional Medal of Honor recipient.

Mr. COSGRIFF. Thank you, sir. Thank you very much.

Mr. FRIEDLANDER. I'm Yael Friedlander, San Antonio Chapter 14, Texas. I have a check here for $200 to add to the check I gave last year in memory of my wife, Adelle R. Friedlander.

Mr. COSGRIFF. Thank you very much, sir.

One check here from this gentleman, Teddy Kemp, for the Dugout 429 in Colorado, Colorado Springs, and another check for a hundred dollars in memory of Ramone Quinonas for $100. Thank you very much, sir.

Mr. **Straub**. My name is Richard Straub, and I come up here from the delegates from Chapter 2, and we took up a little donation in the memory of Al Mullett. It's the first convention he couldn't attend. And we have $200. I hope you accept cash.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. We do.

Mr. **Straub**. Thank you.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you. You have to be well liked to receive $200 in cash here at this convention. Thank you very much, sir.

Mr. **Huber**. Bill Huber, commander, Department of Oklahoma. I'd like to present a check for $1,000.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you again, sir.

Member. On behalf of Harry, "G. I. Joe" Hoots, the 21st District NEC, I'd like to present this check for a hundred dollars.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you very much.

Member. On behalf of San Juan, Puerto Rico Chapter 1, 500.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you. Thank you. Five hundred dollars from Puerto Rico.

Mr. **Kehne**. Joe Kehne, commander, Department of Delaware. I have a check in the amount of $100 from the Department of Delaware in behalf of William Phillips, and also I have one from my chapter, Rehoboth Chapter 8, in the amount of $100, in memory of our member, Elmer C. Galbraith.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you very much, sir.

Mr. **Lamica**. Good morning, sir. I'm Earl Lamica, commander of the Department of Vermont. On behalf of the department and chapters, I wish to present you with a check for $500.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you very much.

Mr. **Lamica**. And we also have a little motto in our Chapter 1, "We've seen the rest, and we know we are the best."

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you. Thank you.

Mr. **Cantu**. I'm Francisco Cantu, commander, Dallas Chapter 31. We donate a check for $3,000, 1,000 each in memory of our past chapter commanders, Curtis Nowlan, Grady Thompson and Carl Ford. Thank you.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you very much. This is for $3,000.

Mr. **Leader**. Ron Leader from Tri-Cities Chapter 95, California, presenting a check for a hundred dollars.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you, Ron.

Mr. **Christopher**. Richard Christopher, Chapter 115, Saugus, Mass, and also home of the national commander. We'd like to donate $100.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you very much.

Ms. **Tharp**. C. Tharp. On behalf of Ralph S. Tagg Chapter 14, Hagerstown, Maryland, $1,000.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Isn't she pretty? A thousand dollars. Thank you.

Member. The Department of Mississippi presents $1,000 for the Service Foundation from Jackson, Mississippi national service officers.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you.

Member. Also I have one here from Mr. Bascom Craddock from Lauderdale, Mississippi for $100.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you very much, sir.

Mr. **Humphries**. Gerald Humphries, adjutant, Chapter 11, Department of Mississippi, a thousand dollars in the name of the Jackson national service officers.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you. We like to see the national service offices' officers get recognized. Here's another check for a thousand dollars.

Mr. **Thomas**. Thomas, past department commander of Mississippi, for my wife and I, $100. And I do have a check in my attache case for Chapter 5 for a hundred dollars.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you very much, sir.

Member. DAV Chapter 7, Oakland, California, the good state.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. The good state, good chapter. Thank you. One hundred dollars.

Mr. **Resendez**. Arsenio Resendez, Chapter 46 in Whittier. I'm very proud to present this check for you from Michael and Flora Longo, one of our newest members in our chapter. Thank you very much.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you. La Mirada, for $25. La Mirada, California.

Mr. **Demele**. Dick, I'm Charles Demele, the Department of California senior vice-commander. I have a check for a hundred dollars in memory of Bob Machado, your friend and mine.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you. One hundred dollars.

Member. I have two checks for you in memory of my son, Arturio Andres, and the Long Beach Chapter adjutant, and in memory of our deceased members I have a check here for $500.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you very much, Alex.

Mr. **Mount**. George Mount, commander, Oakridge Chapter 32, Dallas, Texas. Our chapter presents $200 in honor of Helen Day and William Rocket.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you, sir.

Mr. **Dawson**. I'm Chuck Dawson, senior vice-commander, Chapter 91 of Florida. Also, I am a national director for the Korean War Veterans Association. I'd like to present a hundred dollars in behalf of the Korean War Veterans Association.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you. Thank you, sir. Thank you very much.

Mr. **Mehl**. I'm from one of the smallest chapters in Florida, Green Acres City 19, and I present a hundred dollars in my name, and also give a little credit to 19 and Green Acres City. Herman Mehl.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you very much.

Mr. **Wessing**. Walter Wessing, Keytesville, Missouri Chapter Number 2. Here's a hundred dollar bill in memory of Cliff Ishmael. He's a World War I veteran. So I'm going to donate a hundred dollars in memory of him.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you, sir.

Mr. **Wessing**. Also, I've got a $20 bill. I'm going to donate that, and I want the national commander to—Commander, I want him to match that $20 bill. [Laughter.] I'm going to see if he's got the ones.

Commander **Cardosi**. I've got ones?

Mr. **Wessing**. Yes. You've got all ones. I've just got a 20.

Commander **Cardosi**. Oh, I don't have ones.

Mr. **Wessing**. Well, you'd better give him a 20 out then.

Commander **Cardosi**. Yes, I've got a 20.

Mr. **Wessing**. That's good, good. Thank you, Commander.

Commander **Cardosi**. Any time, brother.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. A total of $120.

Mr. **Rohssler**. Elliott Rohssler and Sandy Paplanus from Chapter 13, Van Nuys, $200 on behalf of our membership.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you very much.

Mr. **Paplanus**. Sandy Paplanus, the commander of Chapter 13, says good luck to this convention, and may we have many great conventions like this.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you, sir. Thank you.

Mr. **Belton**. Herbert Belton, past department commander of Washington, D. C., District of Columbia. I am presenting this check from Federal Chapter Number 16 for $100.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Chapter 16. Thank you very much.

Member. District 6 wants to give you 500, all the states that's in the Sixth District. Our treasurer's got the check out here somewhere, but you'll get it.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. What's his name? We want to have it in the record.

Member. Plummer. Chester Plummer.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Chester Plummer, if you're in the audience, you owe us $500.

Mr. **Thompson**. Gordon Thompson, Pacheco Chapter 79, California, $100.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you, Gordon. Thank you very much.

1st Junior Vice-Commander **Cleveland Jordan**. Cleveland Jordan, 1st junior vice-commander, District of Columbia, will put $2,500, and the check we mailed to you, Richard.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you very much. We'll keep on you.

Mr. **Thomas**. Filmore Thomas from Georgia will donate $65 in honor of Elly Atkins, Department of Georgia.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. Thank you very much, sir.

Member. As the youngest commander, new commander of the State of California of Chapter 73, Birmingham Hospital, I pledge $500.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. We won't forget it.

Member. I won't.

Member. For memory of James Sayre, John F. Kennedy Chapter 44, national service officer, $1,000.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. One thousand dollars, you're going to bring it out in a little while. We'll be waiting for it. Thank you.

Mr. **Tanguay**. Russ Tanguay, Department of New Hampshire. We'll be mailing you a check for $100.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. This is for a hundred dollars from the Department of New Hampshire.

Member. Chapter 48, Santa Rosa, California. I brought my wife's piggy-bank this morning.

Mr. **Cosgriff**. We ended up with a cash donation of $100. Thank you very much.

We'll give you a tentative count on this in just a——

[Cries of "Hold it."]

Mr. **Engwiller**. John Engwiller from the State of Florida. We had a comrade pass away last week. In memory of him, I'll make a personal donation for a hundred dollars, and we're collecting five from our delegates out there. That will come forward in a minute. Thank you.

Member. I'd like to present a check for $50 from a yet-to-be-chartered chapter in Missouri, Marshville. It should be Chapter 70, if we get it.

Mr. **Cosgriff.** Okay. Thank you. Thank you very much.

Let's see. We have 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, $90—in memory of Tom O'Connor from the State of Florida, $190.

Member. A hundred dollars in memory of Preston Messick of Maryland.

Mr. **Cosgriff.** A hundred dollars in memory of Preston Messick of the Department of Maryland. Thank you. Thank you, Bill.

We won't be able to give you a tentative count now because when the lights went out, the power went out, and it shut off the machine, but we will announce it just as soon as we get it re-added up.

Thank you. Thank you very much for all the support. [Applause.] And if you notice, all this support came from you, the members and the departments and the chapters. Again, thank you on behalf of the foundation.

Commander **Cardosi.** Thank you, Richard, for that fine report, and don't forget, donations are always in order.

Mr. **Cosgriff.** They're at just over $102,000, and they're still adding. This is by far the largest amount we've ever received at a convention. [Applause.] The reason I want to have you have this amount is the next report is going to be the Constitution and Bylaws, and I want to have you all in a real good mood on the amount of money you've contributed before that report is given. You'll have it in just a second.

This is an approximate report. At this time, and it will be verified in the office, $104,459. Again, thank you very much. [Applause.]

Commander **Cardosi.** I now call on the Constitution and Bylaws Committee for their final report. Let's have a little order in the hall, please.

Past Commander **Musselmann.** Thank you, Commander. This is the second reading of the Bylaws that were adopted in the Constitution and Bylaws Convention Committee meeting on July 30th. You all have a copy of them that were laid on the chairs out there today. It will make it a little easier for you to follow along when I read them today.

We are going to take them one at a time. We'll vote on each resolution individually. And just let me remind you, if you wish to speak on any of the resolutions, you have to be at a microphone.

Resolution Number 2. Today I'm permitted to explain to you a little bit about the resolutions, and I'll do that prior to reading them. Resolution Number 2, what this is accomplishing is increasing the per capita distribution for life members for chapters, departments and for the national organization.

There have been actuarial studies made on the Life Membership Fund, and the national organization assures me that this additional distribution will still be able to keep the Life Membership Fund sound.

I'll read the resolution.

BE IT RESOLVED that, effective July 1st, 1990, Article 1, Section 11.8, Paragraph 4, Page 35, be amended by:

(1) Deleting "$2" in Paragraph 4(1) and substituting in lieu thereof, "$2.50";— That's for chapters.

(2) Deleting "$1" in Paragraph 4(2) and substituting in lieu thereof, "$1.50";——

That's for departments.

(3) Deleting "$4" in Paragraph 4(3) and substituting in lieu thereof, "$6";——

That's for the national organization organization.

(4) Deleting the words "and national service fee" where they appear in Paragraph 4(3) and in Paragraph 4(3)3;

(5) Adding the words "by the National Finance Committee" between the words "determined" and "that" in Paragraph 4(3); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, effective July 1, 1990, Article 11, Section 11.8, Paragraph 5, Pages 35 and 36, be amended by:

(1) Deleting "$2.50" in Paragraph 5(1) and substituting in lieu thereof "$3";

(2) Deleting "$1.25" in Paragraph 5(2) and substituting in lieu thereof, "$1.75";

(3) Deleting "$5" in Paragraph 5(3) and substituting in lieu thereof "$7";

(4) Deleting the words "and national service fee" where they appear in Paragraph 5(3) and Paragraph 5(3)3; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, effective July 1, 1990, Article 11, Section 11.8, Paragraph 6, Page 36, be amended by:

(1) Deleting "$3" in Paragraph 6(b)(1) and substituting in lieu thereof "$3.50";

(2) Deleting "$1.50" in Paragraph 6(b)(2) and substituting in lieu thereof "$2";

(3) Deleting "$6" in Paragraph 6(b)(3) and substituting in lieu thereof "$8";

(4) Deleting the words "and national service fee" where they appear in Paragraph 6(b)(3) and Paragraph 6b(3)(3); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, effective with the 1991-1992 membership year, Article 14, Section 14.1, Paragraph 1, Page 43, be amended by deleting "$6" where it appears in this paragraph and substituting in lieu thereof "$7," and deleting the words "and national service fee" where they appear in this paragraph;——

That is an additional dollar per capita distribution from life members to the national organization.

[Continuing:] and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Article 15, Section 15.1, Page 47 be amended by deleting the words "annual service fees" where they appear in this section; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Article 3, Section 3.6, Paragraph 2, Page 8 be amended by deleting the words "service fee and" where they appear in this paragraph.

Comrade Commander, at this time I'd like to make a motion to adopt Resolution Number 2.

Commander **Cardosi**. Mike 2.

Mr. **Dehne**. Mr. Chairman, Thomas Dehne, Chapter 116, Kentucky, seconds the motion.

Commander **Cardosi**. It's been moved and duly seconded. Is there any discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor, signify by saying Aye; any opposed. Ayes so ordered.

Past Commander **Musselmann**. Thank you, Comrade Commander.

Resolution Number 3. This one we're going to take in a couple of parts here. We have the resolution, and yesterday after I finished reading the resolutions, we had an amendment to the resolution. What I'd like to do is explain this resolution, read it, get it on the floor with a motion and a second. Do the same for the amendment, get it on the floor with a motion and a second, and then, if there's any discussion, we can have that discussion, and then we'll vote on the amendment and then we'll vote on the resolution.

Resolution Number 3 is going to open up membership eligibility for the Disabled American Veterans. This is an issue that has been talked about for many years by everybody throughout the country. It's something that both the interim committee and the Constitution and Bylaws Convention Committee have struggled with for years. And we believe we've come up with a solution to the problem.

As you're all aware, there are many, many people that are disabled in service to their country that are not eligible for this organization because of the May 7th, 1975 cutoff date. However, these people have served during a time when there have been many, many crises that this military of ours have been involved in.

In fact, we have a GAO report that lists two pages of incidences that have occurred between 1975 and 1989 all over the world. You and I both know that if you're in the military, you're subject to call to any one of these crises at any time.

With this amount of information available to us and the fact that we believe that this period of time is really no different than the period of time from 1955 to 1964, which has been in our Bylaws for membership purposes for years, that the committee recommends the following resolution.

BE IT RESOLVED that Article 11, Section 11.11, Paragraph 1, Page 37 be amended by changing the dates that appear after "Vietnam and other engagements" to read "January 31, 1955 to October 14, 1976" and to include the following periods of service:

Iranian Crisis, Lebanon Crisis, Invasion of Grenada, Invasion of Panama and other engagements from November 4th, 1979 to January 31st, 1990.

Comrade Commander, at this time, I move for the adoption of Resolution Number 3.

Commander **Cardosi**. Mike 2.

Mr. **Dehne**. Mr. Chairman, Thomas Dehne, Chapter 116, Kentucky, seconds the motion.

Past Commander **Musselmann**. As I mentioned earlier, we had an amendment to this resolution. This resolution was read on the floor yesterday. This resolution is attempting to alter the dates that the convention committee and the interim committee have proposed. This resolution is going to limit eligibility during the periods from 1979 to 1990 by listing specific dates. We all know that, as I stated before, that with the number of dates that we have available, the fact that there were over 20,000 deaths in the service during 1980 to '88, that this period, I strongly believe and the committee believes, it should be opened up in its entirety.

However, this resolution was submitted, and I'll read it.

To amend Article 11, Section 11.11, Paragraph 1 of the National Bylaws.

BE IT RESOLVED that Article 11, Section 11.11, Paragraph 1, Page 37, be amended by changing the dates that appear after "Vietnam and other engagements" to read, "January 31st, 1955 to October 14th, 1976," and to include the following periods of service:

Iranian Crisis, November 4th, 1979 to January 20th, 1989; U. S. Military Peace-Keeping Forces in Lebanon and the Invasion of Grenada, October 25th, 1982 to September 6th, 1989; Invasion of Panama, December 20th, 1989 to January 31st, 1990.

This leaves approximately about 21 months in there of time that people would not be eligible for membership in our organization.

Comrade Commander, at this time I would recommend that we reject—what did I say?

Commander **Cardosi**. You said "October" instead of "August." Move the motion.

Past Commander **Musselmann**. Well, I want to correct what I said wrong first. What did I say wrong? I recommend? I move to recommend——

Commander **Cardosi**. Go ahead.

Past Commander **Musselmann**. Oh, okay. I understand it now. That's why he's national adjutant. [Laughter.] Comrade Commander, at this time, I would like to make a motion to reject Resolution 3. Amendment. I'm sorry. The amendment. I make a motion to reject the amendment to Resolution Number 3.

Commander **Cardosi**. Mike 2.

Mr. **Dehne**. Mr. Chairman, Thomas Dehne, Chapter 116, Kentucky, seconds the motion.

Commander **Cardosi**. It's been moved and duly seconded. Is there any discussion?

Mr. **Harold**. Yes. Joe Harold, Boston 10. Now, you people are a little bit confused up there, I think. You're rejecting an amendment that has not been placed before the body yet. Aren't you supposed to make a motion to admit the amendment first? But we'll go by that.

I'm here today to speak on the amendment that was presented by me, and I'm listening to all this garbage going on. What happened here in Washington back a few months ago, there was a talk about extending the membership in the DAV from striking out the—and I have the papers here—"May 7th, 1975" and extending it to January 1990. That was my objection. That's why I've been hot under the collar the last few months.

As you know, we got a congressional charter back in 1932 that says we should take care of the war service disabled veterans. Our Constitution calls for wartime veterans. Under the Bylaws, they defined that and said that under extra hazardous duties or simulating war, you can take people in.

These two amendments, the resolution and the amendment, are almost similar in nature, with the exception of about 20 months that's in there. I have no objection to the first one or the second one. What I had objection to was extending the membership way back to May 7th of 1975.

Why? Because I'm not supposed to say it. We're a war service connected veterans organization, and I just want you to know that I'm sincerely happy that at least they got half a loaf out of it. Thank you.

Commander **Cardosi**. Thank you, Joe.

Any further discussion?

Mr. **Tomasin**. Comrade Commander, Mike Number 1, John Tomasin, Chapter 49, New Jersey. Am I to understand that you have accepted the comrade's remarks as his motion to——

Commander **Cardosi**. No, no, no, no——

Mr. **Tomasin**. Get the amendment before the convention?

Commander **Cardosi**. No, no, no, no. I just let him speak on it.

Mr. **Tomasin**. There is yet no motion to——

Commander **Cardosi**. There is a motion——

Mr. **Tomasin**. To present the amendment.

Commander Cardosi. There is. The motion is on the floor. It's been moved and seconded.

Mr. Tomasin. There was a motion to reject it.

Commander Cardosi. Reject the resolution.

Mr. Tomasin. There should be a motion to put it on the floor first.

Commander Cardosi. It's been put on the floor by the chairman. Is there any further discussion?

Mr. Godich. Comrade Commander, Mike 1.

Commander Cardosi. I want to clarify one thing. An Aye vote will defeat this amendment, and a No vote will adopt it.

Now, Mike 1, where are you?

Mr. Godich. Mike Godich, delegate from Chapter Number 52, McKeesport, Pennsylvania. They say after every conflict the least-remembered person is the veteran. This is not true. The least-remembered person is the guy still in the service. And regardless what people think when they go through the training, when they put their patriotism before their country, they should be remembered.

And we as the Disabled American Veterans realize that ever since World War II, there has been a cold war and there has been a conflict across the country. Like the chairman of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee says, he's got two pages of conflicts that are listed by the GAO, and these veterans were never recognized for the extra-hazardous duty that they committed.

And as everybody listened to the remarks made by our executive director, Jesse, it gave you a prime example of a boy that was brought in the service, sent to a foreign country, and in that duty was supposed to be denied service connected because he was injured on a motorcycle.

This is the same thing, if we do not honor our servicemen and protect our servicemen, and they still have to have a service-connected disability to be eligible for this organization.

Commander Cardosi. Thank you. [Applause.]

I will recognize an opposite view, five minutes. Yes, Mike 3.

Mr. Vecellio. Steve Vecellio, DAV 7, Oakland. As a Vietnam veteran who enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1963, had Vietnam not come about, I would not have been eligible, and I feel that we should support this and leave it all open, because all men serving this country who become disabled served this country honorably, and we should treat the same way.

And I close by calling for the question. [Applause.]

Commander Cardosi. Okay. I'm still open for remarks.

Member. Comrade Commander, Mike Number 1, please.

Commander Cardosi. Mike 1.

Member. Would you please repeat——

Commander Cardosi. I will——

Member. That a Yes vote will defeat the amendment.

Commander Cardosi. Will reject, right. I'm going to repeat it right now to make it perfectly clear. An Aye vote will reject the amendment; a No vote will adopt it.

Is there any further discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor, signify by saying Aye; opposed. The Ayes have it, and so voted. The amendment to Resolution Number 003 is rejected. [Applause.]

Now we will vote on the original amendment. Is there any discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor, signify by saying Aye; opposed. The Ayes have it, and so ordered. [Applause.]

Continue, Mr. Musselmann.

Past Commander **Musselmann**. Thank you, Commander. Resolution Number 4. Resolution Number 4 reads:

> BE IT RESOLVED that Article 11, Section 11.11, Paragraph 5(b), Page 39 be amended to add the following new sentence at the end of Subparagraph (b): "The decision of the national adjutant under this article shall be final, anything to the contrary in these Bylaws notwithstanding."

This change is being put in to give the final decision on questions of eligibility regarding membership to the national adjutant.

Commander, I move for the adoption of Resolution Number 4.

Commander **Cardosi**. Mike 2.

Mr. **Dehne**. Mr. Chairman, Thomas Dehne, Chapter 116, Kentucky, seconds the motion.

Commander **Cardosi**. It's been moved and duly seconded. Is there any discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor, signify by saying Aye; opposed. The Ayes have it; so ordered.

Past Commander **Musselmann**. Resolutions Number 5 and Number 6 are similar. I'll read both and I'll move for adoption of both at that time.

> BE IT RESOLVED that Article 11, Section 11.11, Paragraph 5(a), Pages 38 and 39 be amended by deleting the words "Veterans Administration" where they appear and substituting in lieu thereof the words "United States Department of Veterans Affairs."
>
> Resolution 6. BE IT RESOLVED that Article 3, Section 3.10, Rule 21(c), Page 14 be amended by deleting the words "Veterans Administration" where they appear and substituting in lieu thereof the words "United States Department of Veterans Affairs."

These two resolutions are merely housekeeping. Comrade Commander, I move for the adoption of Resolutions 5 and 6.

Commander **Cardosi**. Mike 2.

Mr. **Dehne**. Mr. Chairman, Thomas Dehne, Chapter 116, Kentucky, seconds the motion.

Commander **Cardosi**. It has been moved and duly seconded. Any discussion? All those in favor, signify by saying Aye; any opposed. The Ayes so ordered; adopted.

Continue.

Past Commander **Musselmann**. Resolution Number 7. This resolution proposes to make clear the procedures that must be followed in the appeals process. It also brings this particular section of the Bylaws into conformity of other sections that deal with appeals processes, so whenever an appeal is—somebody has to use the appeal process, it's the same in both sections of the Bylaws.

> BE IT RESOLVED that Article 7, Section 7.5, Paragraph 2, Page 25 be amended to read as follows:
>
> Paragraph 2: Upon receiving the opinion of the judge advocate upon any question, the national commander shall render a decision which shall be final unless a written notice of appeal to the National Executive Committee stating the grounds therefor is filed by registered mail with the national adjutant within 30 days after mailing of the decision of the national commander. In the event of such an appeal, the decision of the National Executive Committee shall be final, unless a further written notice of appeal to the national convention stating the grounds therefor is filed by registered mail with the national adjutant within 30 days after mailing of the decision of the National Executive Committee. Under any such appeal, the burden

shall be upon the appellant to demonstrate that the decision is clearly erroneous. In all such cases, the decision of the national convention shall be final.

Commander, I move for the adoption for the Resolution Number 7.

Commander **CARDOSI**. Mike 1.

NEC **SPALDING**. Russ Spalding, Chapter 20, Michigan, seconds the motion.

Commander **CARDOSI**. It's been moved and duly seconded. Is there any discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor, signify by saying Aye; any opposed. Ayes have it; so ordered. Adopted.

Continue, sir.

Past Commander **MUSSELMANN**. Thank you.

Resolution Number 8. BE IT RESOLVED that Article 7, Section 7.11, Page 27 be amended by inserting the words "International Affairs;" after the word "Employment;" where it appears in this section.

This resolution is proposing to add the International Affairs Committee to the Bylaws, thus making it an interim committee. This committee has been functioning for years; however, it has been left out of the Bylaws as an interim committee.

Comrade Commander, I move that Resolution Number 8 be adopted at this time.

Commander **CARDOSI**. Mike 3.

Mr. **SARRAZIN**. Dick Sarrazin, Chapter 5, Texas. I second the motion.

Commander **CARDOSI**. It's been moved and duly seconded. Is there any discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor, signify by saying Aye; any opposed. Ayes have it; so ordered. The resolution is adopted.

Past Commander **MUSSELMANN**. Thank you.

Resolution Number 9. BE IT RESOLVED that Article 14, Section 14.5, Paragraphs 2, 3, 4 and 5, Page 45 be amended by adding the provisions of current Paragraph 4 to current Paragraph 2; deleting the word "the" where it appears before the word "safety" in Paragraph 3 and substituting in lieu thereof the word "any"; deleting Paragraph 4 in its entirety; and renumbering Paragraph 5 Paragraph 4.

Sounds very confusing, but it's no more than housekeeping. It's moving one paragraph up and attaching it to another to make it read more clearly. There is absolutely no change in what the section of the Bylaws is doing. It's just making it read better.

Comrade Commander, at this time I move for the adoption of Resolution 9.

Commander **CARDOSI**. Mike Number 1.

Mr. **BROWN**. Clarence P. H. D. Brown, Chapter Number 79, seconds the motion.

Commander **CARDOSI**. It's been moved and seconded. Is there any discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor, signify by saying Aye; any opposed. The Ayes so ordered. Thank you.

Past Commander **MUSSELMANN**. Thank you.

Resolution Number 10. BE IT RESOLVED that Article 15, Section 15.2, Paragraph 2, Page 47 be amended to provide that the second sentence read as follows: "All state department fund-raising projects require prior approval of the National Executive Committee.

The only change here is it used to say "NEC." We're now changing it to "National Executive Committee," the same thing.

Commander, I move for the adoption of Resolution 10.

Commander **Cardosi**. Mike 3.

Mr. **Sarrazin**. Dick Sarrazin, Chapter 5, Texas. I second the motion.

Commander **Cardosi**. It's been moved and duly seconded. Is there any discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor, signify by saying Aye; any opposed. The Ayes so have it, and duly adopted.

Past Commander **Musselmann**. Thank you.

Resolution Number 54. BE IT RESOLVED that Article 15, Section 15.3, Paragraph 6, Page 49 be amended to read as follows:

Paragraph 6. Any state department may conduct such Forget-Me-Not Drive within the state, in territories where there is no chapter, without prior approval from the National Executive Committee.

All that is being accomplished here are the words "Forget-Me-Not" are being added to this particular paragraph so that it clarifies this particular paragraph.

At this time, I would like to move for the adoption of Resolution Number 54.

Commander **Cardosi**. Mike 3.

Mr. **Sarrazin**. Dick Sarrazin, Chapter 5, Texas. I second the motion.

Commander **Cardosi**. It has been moved and duly seconded. Is there any discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor, signify by saying Aye; any opposed. The Ayes have so ordered. Thank you.

Past Commander **Musselmann** [Reading].

Resolution Number 55. BE IT RESOLVED that Article 15, Section 15.4, Paragraph 4, Page 51 be amended by deleting the words "reasonable full" where they appear and substituting in lieu thereof the words "reasonably detailed."

This change is something that is being asked for by mostly our legal counsel. They tell me this clarifies the content of this paragraph, and I believe it does.

At this time, I would like to move for the adoption of Resolution Number 55.

Commander **Cardosi**. Mike 3.

Mr. **Sarrazin**. Dick Sarrazin, Chapter 5, Texas. I second the motion.

Commander **Cardosi**. It has been moved and duly seconded. Is there any discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor, signify by saying Aye; opposed. The Ayes have it; so ordered. Thank you.

Past Commander **Musselmann**. Thank you.

Resolution Number 56. BE IT RESOLVED that the Short Form Order of Business that appears on Page 67 be amended as follows: Renumber Items 10 through 15 to read:

10. Unfinished Business
11. New business
12. Reading of Communications
13. Reports of Committees
14. Memorial Ceremony
15. Good of the Order.

What this is doing is bringing the Short Order Form that is on this page into confirmity with the scripted form that are on Pages 72 and 73 of the Official Ritual. Just making them both the same.

At this time, I would like to move for the adoption of Resolution Number 56.

Commander **Cardosi**. Mike 3.

Mr. **Sarrazin**. Dick Sarrazin, Chapter 5, Texas. I second the motion.

Commander **Cardosi**. It's been moved and duly seconded. Is there any discussion? Mike 2.

Mr. **Barile**. Tony Barile, Chapter 73, New Jersey. I think we have—Number 12 should be before 10 and 11, because there are many times when communications refer to old business and new business, and if you have gone through the old business and new business prior to communications, you have a problem. I think Number 12 should go before Number 10.

Commander **Cardosi**. I'll let the chairman of the committee respond to that.

Past Commander **Musselmann**. What is being listed on Page 67 under this change, and what is listed on Pages 72 and 73 of the Ritual are merely suggestions of how individuals might conduct a chapter meeting. If a chapter wishes to have their communications read at the beginning or at the end or in the middle, that is entirely up to them. This is merely a guide for those that don't know how to run a meeting.

Mr. **Barile**. We understand it, but why don't we do it the right way. This has been corrected at the last couple of conventions.

Past Commander **Musselmann**. Are you speaking against it, or are you just merely making a suggestion?

Mr. **Barile**. I'm saying that we should correct it before we even approve it. Put Number 12 before Number 10. I make a motion that we amend the recommendation of the committee.

Commander **Cardosi**. No. You're out of order, sir. I'm going to get a ruling from the judge advocate.

Okay. Now, if you wish to make an amendment, you can do so, but we're going to carry this over till Thursday. We're going to vote on it on Thursday, because there'll be no further action taken today. Do you wish to make an amendment?

Mr. **Godich**. Comrade, Mike 1, point of order.

Commander **Cardosi**. Well, I'm asking the gentleman. Do you wish to make this in the form of an amendment?

Mr. **Barile**. Yes. I wish to amend the recommendation of the committee that Number 12 come prior to Number 10; in other words, Number 10 would be Number 11 and Number 11 would be Number 12.

Mr. **Godich**. Comrade Commander, point of order, Mike 1.

Commander **Cardosi**. Wait a minute. Point of order, go ahead, Mike 1.

Mr. **Godich**. Mike Godich, delegate, McKeesport Chapter Number 52, Pennsylvania. Comrade, the point of order that I am making is that his amendment wants to return the thing to the amendment that's already on there, and he cannot amend the amendment to make the amendment back to the amendment. So the only thing we could do now, if we're not happy with the way it is, is to reject the amendment that's being proposed.

And also, I agree with the comrade. Two wrongs do not make a right, and I feel, since this is objective even though the two, the Long Form and the Short Form conflict with each other, they don't conflict because, as the chairman says, they are guidelines. So I feel that that the Short Form is correct, and it should remain the same; therefore, the amendment should be rejected.

Commander **Cardosi**. All right.

Mr. **Tomasin**. Comrade Commander, Mike Number 1, John Tomasin, Chapter 49 from New Jersey, seconds the motion to amend the proposed resolution and the amendment to Constitution and Bylaws.

Commander **Cardosi**. Okay. I think we have the solution now. What we're going to do here is we are going to take a vote. We can either vote Yes or No on this amendment. And if we vote No, we'll go back the old way.

Mr. **Rohssler**. Point of information. Elliott Rohssler, Chapter 13, Van Nuys. I would like to know, was the amendment seconded?

Commander **Cardosi**. It was seconded.

Mr. **Rohssler**. Okay. That's all I'm interested in. Thank you.

Commander **Cardosi**. Remember, an amendment cannot be voted on today; you'll have to submit it and we'll vote on it Thursday. Is that your wish?

Member. What are we voting on?

Judge Advocate **Stan Pealer**. Commander, if I may have the floor, please? Thank you. To the delegates: The amendment at this time is out of order. All we are going to do at this point, or since the amendment has actually been placed, the only thing that we can do on this floor is to either vote up or down the convention committee's recommendation, their motion.

So at this point, we need to vote either up or down on the convention committee's recommendation to either accept it or go back to the way it was. That's the only action we can take on the floor this morning.

Commander **Cardosi**. Did the judge advocate make that clear?

Mike 1.

Mr. **Vecellio**. Steve Vecellio, DAV 7, Oakland. I call for the question.

Commander **Cardosi**. Okay. We're going to call for the vote. We're going to vote up or down on this. All those in favor, signify by saying Aye; all opposed. The Noes have it, and it's defeated.

Point of order.

Mr. **Harold**. Comrade Commander, what you've just defeated was the amendment.

Commander **Cardosi**. Exactly.

Mr. **Harold**. You just defeated the amendment. Now you have the report of the committee to vote on.

Member. Comrade Commander, Mike Number 1, point of order. We're going to get confused here, because if you said that we can't vote on the amendment today, and that we just took a vote, we may have unconsciously voted down the committee's amendment. I think we're getting a little screwed up here. Let's start again.

Mr. **Godich**. Mike 1. Comrade Commander, point of order. Mike Godich, Delegate Number 52. What you're confused at is that the judge advocate and the commander ruled on my point of order, which deleted the amendment that was made to the amendment, and refers back to the original amendment made by the committee, and what we voted on was to reject that amendment.

Commander **Cardosi**. Right.

Mike 2.

Mr. **Barile**. Mike 2. Since that was the issue, I'll withdraw my amendment, because it's not necessary any more.

Commander **Cardosi**. Exactly. Okay. Thank you.

Now we'll go on to the next order of business.

Member. Mike Number 3. I think the next order of business is the resolution.

Past Commander **Musselmann** [Reading].

> Resolution Number 57. BE IT RESOLVED that Article 6, Section 6.2, Paragraph 1, Page 19 be amended by deleting the word "ten" where it appears in the first sentence and substituting in lieu thereof the word "fifty" and deleting the word "fifty" where it appears in the second sentence and substituting in lieu thereof the words "one hundred"; and
>
> BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Article 6, Section 6.2, Paragraph 2, Page 19 be amended by deleting the words "where there is an existing chapter in the same city, town or borough," where they appear in this paragraph.

What this paragraph is attempting to do, these changes, is to change the number of new members required to establish chapters, both in an area where there isn't a chapter and in an area where there's an existing chapter.

Currently it reads ten for a new chapter and 50 if there's already a chapter in existence. This is proposing to change that to 50 to start a new chapter and 100 if there's a chapter in the area already in existence.

However, I know a lot of you that come from the smaller areas go, "My God! I cannot ever get 50 members to start a new chapter." And we took that into consideration. That's why we have the second RESOLVED here, which used to only allow the NEC to rule on that number when there was a chapter in an existing city.

By removing these words, departments or individuals that now wish to establish a chapter at any time in an area where they don't feel they can get 50 or 100, can ask their departments to ask the National Executive Committee for approval to lower that requirement.

So if you live up in the north woods of Washington, or up in Upper Peninsula in Michigan, or out in the desert of California, and you can only get 20 members to start a chapter, then you can petition through your department to the National Executive Committee to lower that requirement for that particular chapter.

However, for those of us that live in big metropolitan areas, we don't feel that it's hard to get 50 new members to start a chapter. In fact, it's going to give that chapter a more than average chance of survival. When you establish a chapter with ten or eleven people, and the one or two that started it then decide to go elsewhere, there's nobody left to carry on the business, and we then have to go through and take the necessary steps to merge it with another chapter or to revoke the charter of that chapter.

We think this will make chapters much stronger in the beginning and give them a much greater chance of survival.

At this time, Commander, I move for the adoption of Resolution Number 57.

Commander **Cardosi**. Mike 3.

Mr. **Sarrazin**. Dick Sarrazin, Texas, seconds the motion.

Commander **Cardosi**. It's been moved and duly seconded. Is there any discussion? Mike 3.

Mr. HAROLD. Joe Harold, Boston, Chapter Number 10. As one of the persons who objected to this, I want to bring to your attention the original proposal was 100 new members to start a chapter and 300 for an existing chapter. And we did get a reduction from 100 to 50 and we did get the 300 reduced to 100, and we also got the commitment that if you want to start a chapter and you can't hit the 50, that you can petition your state department, with the approval of the NEC, and have a lower amount.

We want to bring it to your attention. So those people who want to start a chapter, even though it says 50, there's a possibility that you can get a chapter with less than 50. Thank you.

Commander CARDOSI. Thank you, Joe.

Mike 1.

Mr. SOCKWELL. Paul Sockwell, department commander, State of Alabama. I'm speaking against this motion, due to the fact that in our areas in the Southeastern District, we have a lot of the small towns in the outlying areas that we cannot get 50 members to start with.

And I guarantee you, to start a chapter, if you can get 15 or 20 and then raise it on up later on, it's better than not having a chapter at all.

Commander CARDOSI. The chairman just clarified that, and I think Joe Harold just clarified it.

Mr. SARKWA. Why go through the double motion of having to get the permission and then go on through National and waste all that time?

Commander CARDOSI. Do you want that clarified again? Kenny, Mr. Chairman, will you clarify?

Past Commander MUSSELMANN. Well, like I said, we are not preventing anybody from trying to establish a chapter with lower than 50 if they can show the National Executive Committee and their department that it's not feasible to get 50 members in that particular area.

And that's not hard to determine, because once you get the eligible list of who's eligible out there to go out, if you only have 30 to go after, we know you can't get 50. And so that petition will come on through.

However, there are many, many more times when it is easy to get 50 members to start a new chapter, and that's what this Bylaw change is attempting to do.

Commander CARDOSI. Is there any further discussion? Mike 1.

NEC SPALDING. Russ Spalding, Chapter 20, Michigan. We're in the same situation that many of these other states are that have the same—we have proposed a resolution here that sets some good guidelines, and we've also allowed the chapters to follow through or start new chapters if they want to start them.

Our district in the State of Michigan is totally in support of this.

Commander CARDOSI. If there's no further discussion—Mike 1.

Mr. GODICH. Mike Godich, Chapter Number 52, McKeesport, Pennsylvania. Everybody's under the mistaken impression that this is going to take more bookkeeping. To start any chapter, you have to get the permission of the DEC and the national organization, and that's all it's going to require for the small chapters, the same bookkeeping that you do. So there's nothing additional, no more red tape.

It's up to your department to decide, because of your situation, you could have 20 members to start a chapter rather than 50.

Commander **Cardosi**. Thank you.

If there's no further discussion, I'll call for the question. All those in favor, signify by saying Aye; opposed. The Ayes have it; so ordered.

Past Commander **Musselmann**. Thank you, Commander.

Resolution Number 58. BE IT RESOLVED that Article 10, Section 10.2, Page 33, be amended to add a new paragraph to this section in order that it will read as follows:

Paragraph 1: The national organization of the DAV Auxiliary and the NOTR shall each make an annual report to the DAV National Convention, including a financial statement.

Paragraph 2: Each DAV women's auxiliary state organization and local units and NOTR dugout or other subordinate units of the NOTR shall keep a complete financial record of all monies received, expended and remitted. All money received by each such subordinate body must be deposited in the name of said body. Each subordinate body shall have an Audit Committee composed of at least three members of said body who shall conduct an annual audit and submit a report of same to the governing DAV state department and DAV national organization within 90 days after the close of the accounting year of said body. Notwithstanding the foregoing, an audit of such body's books by an independent public accountant shall be considered in compliance with the provisions of this paragraph with respect to such annual report. All financial reports shall, regardless of generally accepted accounting procedures, specify and itemize the precise expenditure of all funds during the reporting period. Broad or general classifications will not be deemed acceptable and may subject said body to the audit provisions of Article 15 of these Bylaws. Failure to file annual financial reports will be sufficient cause to revoke the charter of said body.

This resolution is being placed in our Bylaws in order to bring every unit of the DAV into compliance. Presently, all chapters must report their finances to the state departments they are in and to the national organization. It has been lacking over the years that we have not required this of our auxiliaries or the NOTR.

In addition to that, departments are tasked with approving fund-raising efforts for auxiliaries and NOTR dugouts. If departments do not know the financial status of those units, it's very difficult for departments to approve fund-raising programs.

So this is asking no more of these units than we ask of our own chapters and departments, and I make a motion at this time to adopt Resolution Number 58.

Commander **Cardosi**. Mike 1.

NEC **Spalding**. Spalding, Chapter 20, Michigan, supports the motion.

Commander **Cardosi**. It's been moved and duly seconded. Is there any discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor, signify by saying Aye; any opposed. The Ayes have it, and so ordered.

Past Commander **Musselmann**. Thank you.

Resolution Number 59. BE IT RESOLVED that Article 15, Section 15.7, Paragraph 3, Page 52 be amended by deleting "$50,000" where it appears in the second sentence and substituting in lieu thereof "$75,000."

What this is doing is raising the limit that's in the Bylaws at the present time from $50,000 to $75,000 before a chapter or department or a unit is asked to have an official audit of their books. For years, it's been at $50,000, and we've had resolutions that have asked to have it raised, and the committee compromised and came up with this amount. They're willing to suggest to you at this time to raise it to $75,000.

At this time, Commander, I would move for the adoption of Resolution Number 59.

Commander **Cardosi**. Mike 1.

NEC **Spalding**. Spalding, Chapter 20, Michigan, supports the motion.

Commander **Cardosi**. It's been moved and duly seconded. Is there any discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor, signify by saying Aye; any opposed. Ayes have it, and so ordered.

Past Commander **Musselmann** [Reading].

> Resolution Number 60. BE IT RESOLVED that Article 7, Section 7.1, Page 23 be amended by deleting the word "district" and substituting in lieu thereof the words "state department."

What this is going to change is it's now going to allow national vice-commanders to be looked at from each state each year for election purposes here. Presently we can only have one vice-commander from a district, and there are still a lot of districts that have two, three and four states in a district, so you can only have one candidate from that district.

This will remove that and allow each state to have candidates if they so desire.

At this time, I move for the adoption of Resolution Number 60.

Commander **Cardosi**. Mike 3.

Mr. **Sarrazin**. Dick Sarrazin, Texas. I second the motion. Chapter 5.

Commander **Cardosi**. Thank you.

It's been moved and duly seconded. Is there any discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor, signify by saying Aye; any opposed. The Ayes have it, and so ordered.

Thank you very much.

Past Commander **Musselmann**. We've got one more resolution. That's the one that was called to be brought back up. As you recall, the committee rejected this resolution, and it was asked to be read yesterday and it was. It will be then considered today.

This is Resolution Number 263, title, "Recognition for Sons of the Disabled American Veterans." I will read the RESOLVED portion.

> BE IT RESOLVED that acceptance of this resolution be with the understanding that any member of this auxiliary group will not be eligible for any regular membership in the Disabled American Veterans at any age unless he has been in active service and become eligible on his own;
>
> NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Disabled American Veterans, Elmer Pond Chapter 1, Fort Wayne, Indiana, this 27th day of March, 1990, as an organization and to their sons and grandsons to establish and officially recognize this junior group (adults also) to be known as Sons of the Disabled American Veterans; and
>
> FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that copies thereof be forwarded to the Disabled American Veterans, Department of Indiana, for its action and approval in June 1990 convention, and referral to the Disabled American Veterans National Convention at Anaheim, California in July 1990 for amendment as in Article IX, Constitution, and included in Article 10, Section 10, Auxiliaries and all other sections of Constitution and Bylaws as pertaining to auxiliary groups.

We've had this particular resolution submitted many times in the past, and those of you that have attended probably more than just this national convention remember the discussions that have taken place. This type of auxiliary would require a constitutional change to establish the auxiliary, and I don't believe, as the committee didn't believe, that the support is there at this time for this type of auxiliary.

With that, I move for the rejection of Resolution 263.

Commander **Cardosi**. Mike 3.

Mr. **Sarrazin**. Dick Sarrazin, Chapter 5, Texas. I second the motion.

Commander **Cardosi**. It's been moved and duly seconded. Is there any discussion? Mike 3.

Mr. **Seal**. Robert Seal, Chapter 20, Bakersfield, California. What we're doing right now is discriminating against young boys. I feel at this time that this should be adopted.

Commander **Cardosi**. You're looking at a man who has four sons that were very, very involved with the DAV, they grew up with the DAV.

Mike 1.

Member. Comrade Commander, we feel in New Jersey that if you start to do these sorts of things, you're going to lose the whole focus of this organization as a veterans' organization. You're going to make it into a social club. You're going to start talking about whether children are legitimate or illegitimate. It's a bad idea, and we should vote——

Commander **Cardosi**. No, no, no, no, no, no.

Is there any further discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor, signify by saying Aye; any opposed. The Ayes so ordered. The amendment is rejected.

Past Commander **Musselmann**. Comrade Commander, this completes the report of the Constitution and Bylaws National Convention Committee, and at this time I would like to thank each and every member that assisted in that committee, particularly Dick Sarrazin for being secretary, and Steve Edmiston as advisor. I'd also like to thank the members of the interim committee this year for their diligent work.

And at this time, I move that the report be accepted and the committee discharged with the thanks of the national convention.

Commander **Cardosi**. Mike 2.

Mr. **Rusnak**. Mr. Chairman, George Rusnak, department commander, New Jersey, Chapter 41, would wholeheartedly second that, with a round of applause for a job well done.

Commander **Cardosi**. You heard the motion. [Applause.] All those in favor, signify by saying Aye; opposed. So ordered. A round of applause. [Applause.]

The adjutant has a few announcements to make.

Adjutant **Joeckel**. I just have one announcement, Commander. Right now the Committee on Nomination of National Officers are reconvening in the Santa Monica Room right now. Any member of the Committee on Nominations please report to that room. Thank you.

Commander **Cardosi**. Thank you.

Now, will you please welcome, welcome and join in with me, my brothers, Golden Rodent Oswald Pederson, and the Imperial Council of the National Order of Trench Rats. Here comes my brother.

Ladies and gentlemen, it gives me great pleasure to introduce to you the Imperial Golden Rodent, Oswald Pederson. Let's give him a big hand. [Applause.] My brother.

Mr. **Oswald F. Pederson**. Thank you for that applause. We really appreciate it.

You know, I've been coming up here for about ten years now, and every time I get introduced, I've been booed, and most of the booing has been coming from the 15th District. [Laughter.] And I mean Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri and Kansas. So if you other 20 districts would do me a favor, I'd like to do a number on those comrades and brother rats, so would you turn towards the 15th District standard over there, and when I count three, just give them one hell of a big boo. One, two, three. [Booing.] That makes me feel good. [Laughter.]

But let me explain that a little bit, because in the Trench Rats, we consider a boo a sign of an acceptance and really complimentary. It's not like Roseanne Barr with singing "The Star Spangled Banner." That's a negative definition of booing.

So with that in mind, I'd like to go ahead and give you a short, a brief report on my activities and so forth during this past year.

When I was nominated, elected and installed as the Imperial Golden Rodent in Las Vegas, Nevada a year ago, I promised to help build upon the fine work done by former IGRs. I hope I have in some small measure fulfilled that promise. All that I can say at this time is that I have tried my best, and that only time will tell how I fared.

As I began my travels around the country, I did so with a mixture of pride and humility, always keeping in mind that the office of IGR should only be used to enhance the parent organization and its auxiliaries; that our programs and activities should be aimed at providing support by helping the parent organization reach its stated goals as well as providing a fun-filled environment for the brother rats.

Let me just say briefly that the experiences I've had this year in traveling from Florida to California, from North Carolina to the Dakotas, and all the places in between, have been most enjoyable and personally rewarding. Thank you all for your support and hospitality.

I should mention, however, two tragedies that occurred during the year. On August 7 last year, after the national convention in Las Vegas, Nevada, Imperial Rodent Harley C. Livingston, our Order's 46th Imperial Golden Rodent, unexpectedly passed away. I represented the National Order of Trench Rats at that funeral on August 11th in Rio Grande City, Texas.

Tragedy struck again on February 4th, 1990 with the death of my father-in-law, Clifton Ishmael, who was an active, dedicated DAVer and Trench Rat from the 1930s right up through 1989. He served the organization on the chapter, department and national level, and all fellow comrades and brothers of World War I with the hard work and dogged tenacity really made our organization what it is today. They took us through the worst of times.

I might say parenthetically that we might be on the edge of such times again. So, with their memories in mind, we must carry on and fight on for the disabled American veteran.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank Commander Cardosi and National Adjutant Joeckel, Butch Joeckel, for their letters of support and congratulations. I never had to call on you for help, but it is a good feeling to know that it was always there, should I need it.

Thanks also to the work rat of our Order, Imperial Rodent and Imperial Red-Eyed Gnawer Lee Henderson.

In summary, then, let me say that the National Order of Trench Rats is alive and well. With a high level of interest, enthusiasm the brothers have for the Order, I'm certain that the next Imperial Golden Rodent and future ones will also have successful terms as leaders of our great Order.

Thank you. [Applause and booing.] I know you're not booing me.

At this time, I'd like to introduce, beginning with the Imperial Van, which is our officers, of the National Order of Trench Rats. First I'd like to introduce our Imperial Silver Rodent, Robert Elliott from Illinois. [Booing] Go ahead and boo him. Next, George Zoscsak, who's our Imperial Blue Rodent from Michigan [booing]: next we have our Imperial Turquoise Rodent from Florida, Ernie Balcom [booing]; next, the Imperial Bubonic Plague, Fred Sutton [booing]; next, the Imperial Black Plague, Paul Bailey. [Booing.]

Coming over here to my right is the Imperial Iron Claw, Al Nowak from New York [booing]; next we have the Imperial Historic Rat from Kansas City, Missouri, Robert J. Meints [booing]; next we have the Imperial Red-Eyed Gnawer from Florida, Lee A. Henderson [booing]; then we have the Imperial Bench Rat from the sector of Michigan, Charles M. Sirhal [booing]; next we have the Imperial Nightingale from North Carolina, E. T. Townsend [booing]; next we have the Imperial Cure Rat from New Hampshire, Joe Letourneau [booing]; next we have the Imperial Hole-y Rat from Virginia, Russell R. Henderson. [Booing.]

Now, beginning with the—first, I want to say the Imperial Rendezvous Rat, Lino Zamacona, and Bill Linn from California. [Booing.]

Next I want to go to the Imperial Executive Rats, beginning with the 1st District. From Massachusetts, we have Anthony J. Foti [booing]; next we have the Imperial Executive Rat, the 2nd District, John Bednarczyk from New York [booing]; and District 3, Owen L. Boland from Rhode Island [booing]; District 4, Elwood "Woody" Lechausse from Connecticut [booing]; next we have District 5, James E. Turner from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania [booing]; next from 6th District, Chester M. Plummer from Washington, D. C. [booing]; 7th District, Joe Dirocco from Florida [booing]; next from the 8th District, Roy Mitchell from Alabama. [Booing.] Thank you.

Next, Albert Curry, the 9th District, from Georgia [booing]; next from the 10th District, Curt Guigelaar from Michigan [booing]; Number 11 from Cleveland Ohio, Jake Mueller, 11th District [booing]; next, 12th District, Jim Schroeder from Illinois [booing]; 13th District, William Warner from Kentucky [booing]; next, 14th District, Robert Sparks from South Dakota [booing]; 15th District, E. C. "Chuck" Alford from Missouri. [Booing.] That makes me feel better.

Sixteen, Larry Polzin from California [booing]; 17th District, Ben Geist from Colorado [booing]; 18th District, William A. Parcelle from Nevada [booing]; 19th District, John Casch, who is in the hospital, so our prayers are with him. He's from the State of Washington.

And next, from the 20th District, Frank Webb from Houston, Texas [booing]; the 21st District from Oklahoma, Jimmy Foster. [Booing.]

And now I'd like to go in order from the latest to the earliest Imperial Rodents who served their terms by the number that I'm giving you. The 64th Imperial Rodent, Vincent P. Reed from Massachusetts [booing]; the 63rd Imperial Rodent from Michigan, Ken Nowry [booing]; the 62nd Imperial Rodent from Washington, D. C., Werren Lone [booing]; the 60th Imperial Rodent, John J. Dilaurenzio from Connecticut [booing]; the 58th—some are not here, so we're leaving those that aren't here out—the 58th Imperial Rodent from Florida, Lee A. Henderson [booing]; the 57th Imperial Rodent from New York, Douglas Jones [booing]; then the 56th Imperial Rodent from Chicago, Illinois, Jack E. Follis [booing]; then the 53rd Imperial Rodent from Michigan, Lester Karr [booing]; the 52nd Imperial Rodent from California, Joe J. Gibbs [booing]; next, the 50th Imperial Rodent from Florida, Roger Yost [booing]; next, the 49th Imperial Rodent from Chicago, Illinois, Alfred Grajek [booing]; the 43rd Imperial Rodent from New York, James W. Cain [booing]; the 39th Imperial Rodent from Colorado, Sam Vigil [booing]; and last, but not least, the deputy sheriff from Indiana and a former state trooper, and the oldest Imperial Rodent here today, the 30th Imperial Rodent, Edward F. James from Indiana. [Booing and applause.]

Comrades and brothers, this completes our appearance this morning, and I want to thank you all for having the honor to come here with the National Order of Trench Rats and present the Imperial Council to you. Thank you. [Applause.]

I'd like to turn the mike over to the Imperial Red-Eyed Gnawer, Lee Henderson, for some announcements about our program and activities from now on. Lee, do you want to come up?

Mr. LEE A. HENDERSON. Okay, Brother Rats. The registration is coming along fine. It's a lot slower than it was in Las Vegas last year, but I can understand that. We don't have the slot machines here.

The general business session will be held in Pacific Ballroom C on this level. It will begin at 1:00 o'clock tomorrow afternoon. Registration will close prior to the beginning of that session.

The rendezvous tomorrow evening will be held in the very same room, so if you find it in the afternoon, you'll have no problem in the evening. We have some good plans, and again this year, with the refreshments, there'll be no tickets.

That is about all I have to say. The rest pertains to the Imperial Council. They are meeting on Thursday. Thank you very much. [Applause.]

Commander CARDOSI. Let's have a big hand for my brother rats. Ladies and gentlemen, let's have a big hand for Oswald Pederson. [Applause.]

At this time, while my brothers are leaving, I'd like to call Dick Cosgriff up for a brief announcement.

Mr. COSGRIFF. Comrades, when the lights went out, we lost some of the names. For those that have given cash—we don't have any problem with the checks—but to assist the recorder, those that gave cash, if you'd come back over here on the left and again give us your name, for those that gave cash only. Thank you very much.

Commander CARDOSI. Thank you.

Now I'd like to ask our adjutant to make some announcements. Please pay attention, very important.

National Adjutant JOECKEL. Well, Commander, after all of that discussion this morning, I didn't know when the delegates wanted me to read the announcements, whether before the opening of business or close of business, but anyway, we got it squared away.

All right. I have several. The Department of Inspectors Seminar will meet in California Pavilion A from 1:00 to 3:00. The National Amputation Seminar will meet in Pacific Ballroom B from 1:00 to 4:00. The Communications Seminar will meet in San Simeon from 1:30 to 3:00 o'clock.

On Wednesday, tomorrow, the Blind Veterans Breakfast will be in the San Simeon Room from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. The Alleycats meeting will be held in Pacific Ballroom D from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. The Alleycats Rendezvous will be held in Pacific Ballroom D from 8:00 o'clock to 12:00 midnight. The Trench Rat Rendezvous will be held in Pacific Ballroom C from 8:00 until 12:00 midnight.

On Thursday, the Department of Massachusetts breakfast will be held in the San Simeon Room from 7:00 to 8:30 a.m.

Again, I want to remind all delegates about gathering around the escalators.

This is an interesting one. I've been harassed about tickets all week. But I wanted to inform you this announcement came up that while you didn't have to have a ticket for California Fun Night last night, they wanted to let you know that California gas tax will increase by five cents tomorrow per gallon. So, to save money, you might want to fill your tank today.

That's all, Commander.

Commander CARDOSI. Thank you, Comrade Adjutant.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, please rise while I ask Chaplain Wilkie to lead us in prayer.

Chaplain WILKIE. Before the closing prayer, may I invite all of the department and chapter chaplains and any of their guests who would like to attend the Chaplains Seminar tomorrow afternoon at 2:00 o'clock.

Let us pray. Thou Most Holy and Glorious Lord God, as we now again go to refreshment and be separated from this place for a time, bless us again in our fellowship and our deliberation. May we become more educated that we may be better enabled to serve our fellow comrades. While we're at refreshment, protect us, bring us back safely with renewed energy and commitment. In Thy Holy Name we ask it. Amen.

Commander CARDOSI. The convention now stands in recess until Thursday morning at 9:00 o'clock a.m.

[Whereupon, the meeting recessed at 11:35 o'clock a.m., July 31, 1990.]

FINAL BUSINESS SESSION

August 2, 1990

The Final Business Session of the Disabled American Veterans 69th National Convention convened in the California Pavilion of the Anaheim Hilton Hotel and Towers, Anaheim, California, Thursday morning, August 2, 1990, and was called to order at 9:00 o'clock a.m. by Commander Vernon V. Cardosi.

Commander VERNON V. CARDOSI. The convention will please come to order. Please join me in the Pledge of Allegiance. All rise.

[Pledge of Allegiance.]

Commander CARDOSI. Chaplain, will you please lead us in prayer?

Chaplain WILKIE. Let us pray. Most Holy and Glorious Lord God, again we thank You for the privilege that is ours of coming together in this fellowship on such a beautiful morning for the purpose of transacting again business of this national convention. We thank You for the past days and evenings of rest and refreshment.

We would ask now, as we come together once again, that You will be with us in all of our deliberations. We pray Your blessing upon our national commander and all of our officers as they lead us in these deliberations that we may indeed do those things and make those decisions which are pleasing in Your sight.

We would pray, Father, this morning that You will so bless our undertakings that all of those who are elected today to lead us throughout the coming year may be those which You would have us to choose. Bless us together that we may indeed bring You praise and gratitude, for we ask it in Thy Holy Name. Amen.

Commander CARDOSI. You may be seated.

It gives me great pleasure this morning to introduce the president of the Commanders and Adjutants Association for his introduction of the C&A officers for the year 1990-1991.

MEMBER. Thank you, Commander. Good morning, ladies and gentlemen, comrades. It was mentioned to me this morning that I have one minute to introduce the staff, but five minutes to make the presentation. So it gives me great honor to introduce the Commanders and Adjutants newly elected staff.

The vice-president, Leonard Dudley from Hope Valley, Rhode Island. [Applause.] Would you please hold your applause until I complete the introduction. Edward Lastowski, Manchester, New Hampshire. This is the Executive Board. William Parker, Manchester, Tennessee; William Fabregas, Northport, Florida; Stanley Miller from New Mexico.

Our secretary and treasurer, Walter Hyle from Baltimore, Maryland; assistant secretary and special projects, Past National Commander Paul Thompson from Baltimore, Maryland; chaplain, Thomas Cook from Florida; recorder, Reba Eslinger from Wisconsin.

The Audit Committee which is here this morning is: Don Melczak from Pennsylvania; Frank Morris from Wisconsin; James Roy from New Hampshire.

Ladies and gentlemen, this is the newly elected Commanders and Adjutants staff for 1990-1991. Thank you. [Applause.]

Commander, I would like to present you with this check for $1,000 from the National Commanders and Adjutants Association to the Foundation.

Commander **CARDOSI**. Thank you so very, very much. We appreciate this, and you do a wonderful job. [Applause.]

At this time, it gives me great pleasure to introduce the newly elected Imperial Golden Rodent of the National Order of Trench Rats for his presentation, Imperial Golden Rodent Robert Elliott. [Applause and booing.]

Mr. **ROBERT ELLIOTT**. Thank you. Thank you, Commander. National Commander and Past Golden Rodent Brother Rat, Commander Cardosi, Butch Joeckel, platform guests, brother rats, comrades and guests: I would request your prayers for our brother, Imperial Golden Rodent Os Pederson, who is hospitalized because of a recurrent infection.

Because of that, I am here today in his place during our annual presentation of the National Service Foundation Awards. Os has filed his report with the national adjutant, which will, we know, become a part of the records of this organization. I will not be reading or summarizing his report.

I do want to report to you that the National Order of Trench Rats has had another good year of service for the veterans and their dependents who look to us for assistance. We pledge to you our current efforts to work to ensure that we will meet tomorrow's challenge. We ask that more of you will join with us in this worthy cause.

Commander, here are the reports, and here are two checks from the National Order of Trench Rats.

Commander **CARDOSI**. Thank you so very, very much. Thank you. We appreciate it. [Applause.]

Mr. **ELLIOTT**. At this time, Imperial Golden Rodent Os would probably be introducing me, and that unfortunately is not the case, so here I am. At this time, I would like to introduce my family, Betty Elliott, who had the honor to be elected Exalted Tiger Cat last night; my two grandchildren, Sarah and Martha; my Historic Rat and his wife, Amy Cook.

Thank you. [Applause.]

Commander **CARDOSI**. Thank you very much.

Mr. **COSGRIFF**. Commander, I would like to announce that the Trench Rats—we have two checks here, one for $4,000 and one for $900, for $4,900. And we just received a check for a thousand dollars from the C&A, and if there's any other checks, we'll be glad to accept them at this time.

Commander **CARDOSI**. I wouldn't go too far.

At this time, I'd like to introduce Janet Galian, wife of Past National Commander Ed Galian, for the purpose of a presentation to the National Service Foundation.

Mrs. **EDWARD GALIAN**. Hello! On behalf of SONCO, I'd like to make a presentation to the National Service Foundation in memory of William O. Cooper, and another one in memory of Betty Maile. Thank you. [Applause.]

Mr. **COSGRIFF**. Thank you very much, Mrs. Galian, and I also received a check for a hundred dollars from Judge McClaren to add to his total. And I have another one here for Eugene and Eldene

Murphy for a hundred dollars; and one from Chapter 1, Sioux Falls, South Dakota for a thousand dollars; and another one from Chapter 1 for $500; and one from the Department of South Dakota for a thousand dollars. Thank you very much. This puts us way over the $100,000 figure. [Applause.]

Commander CARDOSI. If there are any more out there, I'm sure Mr. Cosgriff would be delighted to stay around here and wait for you. If there's any more, please come up.

And now I'd like to introduce our national adjutant, Charles "Butch" Joeckel.

Adjutant JOECKEL. Thank you, Commander. The following resolution was adopted during one of the committee reports the other day, but I thought it was worth reading on the floor. Appreciation to National Commander Vernon V. Cardosi.

WHEREAS, as a result of the leadership of the Disabled American Veterans national commander, Vernon V. Cardosi, the DAV has continued to be our nation's leading advocate for America's wartime service-connected disabled veterans and their families; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Commander Cardosi, the DAV exposed and effectively responded to major threats posed against service-connected disability benefits; and

WHEREAS, under the stewardship of Commander Cardosi, legislation was enacted into law increasing and expanding the benefits and services provided to America's service-connected disabled veterans and their families; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the untiring efforts of Commander Cardosi, DAV's membership has reached the one million member mark for the second consecutive year prior to the commencement of the national convention; and

WHEREAS, as a result of his strong support, DAV's life membership ranks continue to grow to record numbers; and

WHEREAS, Commander Cardosi's deep concern for America's veterans, their dependents and survivors required him to spend many long hours traveling throughout the country bringing the DAV's message to the public; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Disabled American Veterans in national convention assembled in Anaheim, California, July 29 through August 2nd, 1990, recognizes the contributions Commander Cardosi has made towards furthering the interests of America's service-connected disabled veterans and their families; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we extend our sincere appreciation and thanks to Commander Cardosi's family for their unselfish sharing of him during his year as national commander.

Vern.

Commander CARDOSI. Thank you. [Applause.]

Adjutant JOECKEL. He did a great job, didn't he?

Commander CARDOSI. At this time, we'll go into election of officers, and I announce that the registration of delegates is closed, and I call for the final report of the Credentials Committee.

Mr. BURTON. Thank you, Commander. Good morning, Comrade Commander, national officers and the delegates. This is a final report and reflects the total registration as of 9:00 a.m. on August 2nd, 1990. At the present time, we have 607 chapters; 41 departments; 27 national officers; 10 past national commanders; for a total of 1,630 delegates and 37 alternates, for a total of 10,117 votes.

This completes the final report of the Credentials Committee, Commander, and I move for its adoption.

Commander CARDOSI. Thank you very much. You've heard the motion. Is there a second? Mike 3.

Mr. ADAMS. Adams, San Diego Number 2, seconds the motion.

Commander CARDOSI. It's been moved and duly seconded that we accept the final report of the Credentials Committee. Is there any discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor, signify by saying Aye; opposed. Ayes have it, and so ordered.

Thank you. Thank you very, very much.

Mr. ADAMS. Commander, Adams, San Diego 2, moves the discharge of the Credentials Committee.

Commander CARDOSI. No, not at this time. Not at this time, Mr. Adams.

Adjutant JOECKEL. Commander, the Nominating Committee is not yet ready to report.

Commander CARDOSI. I guess the people know that we've been kind of stalling, and I can't sing a song, and I can't dance, and I can't act, so I don't know what we're going to do Mr. Joeckel. Can you tell a joke or something?

Adjutant JOECKEL. Why don't you recognize the fellow on Mike 3.

Commander CARDOSI. The fellow on Mike 3.

Rev. ED MUEGGE, Jr. Reverend Ed Muegge, Jr., Santa Cruz, California. I want the delegates to know the DAV National Headquarters may be relied upon. As you know, we had catastrophic earthquake. One-fourth of the town's buildings are down. Everyone suffered. The Disabled American Veterans, through two national service officers, John Parker, Stan Moore, were in Santa Cruz writing checks for $250 to disabled veterans or eligible to join disabled veterans, 400 checks.

And I'm here today to say thank you to the National Headquarters, national service officers, for the $100,000 put into Santa Cruz and Watsonville, California. Thanks again for a wonderful job. [Applause.]

Commander CARDOSI. And thank you for those kind words.

At this time, I call on our national adjutant to read the new National Executive Committeemen.

Adjutant JOECKEL. Commander Cardosi, I'll put into the record the names of the newly elected National Executive Committeemen. From the 2nd District, Raymond S. Detor, Sr.; from the 4th District, William C. Meredith; from the 6th District, Thomas Bland; from the 8th District, Harry A. Duprey; from the 10th District, John McCullough; from the 12th District, Reba Eslinger; from the 14th District, Gerald McIntyre; from the 16th District, Charles Framiglio; from the 18th District, Hermon T. Harrison; and from the 20th District, Richard L. Sarrazin. [Applause.]

Commander CARDOSI. Thank you.

If anybody has any money for the Service Foundation, now would be an excellent time to come up here. We'll take any donations. Excellent time.

You know, I would like to take this opportunity to tell the delegates what a wonderful job this hotel has done accommodating us. I know we had difficulties riding the elevators, but, you know, we have such a large delegation. And they really went way out of their way to accommodate us.

And now at this time, I'd like to accept a motion to thank the hotel and their staff for the fine job they've done for us. I'll entertain a motion. The Chair now entertains a motion. Mike 3.

Mr. MCCARTIN. Commander, Bill McCartin, Chapter 1 in Maryland, will so move.

Commander CARDOSI. Is there a second? Mike 1.

Mr. **Friesema**. Jim Friesema, Detroit Number 1, supports the motion.

Commander **Cardosi**. It's been moved and seconded. Is there any discussion, by the way? All those in favor, signify by saying Aye; opposed. Ayes have it and so ordered. Thank you very much.

Adjutant **Joeckel**. Maybe we can get the chaplain to pray for a little while.

One other thing I would like to bring to your attention, Commander, is that the VA personnel at Long Beach medical facility have been here all week. They've been running the medical room. They've had people staying here at the hotel. They've had nurses in in the morning. We have had at least one emergency that I'm aware of, which they responded to quickly.

I think it would be in order that we adopt a resolution commending the Long Beach VA Hospital and its personnel for a job well done.

Commander **Cardosi**. Yes, sir. You've heard the motion. I'll now entertain a motion.

Ms. **Eslinger**. Reba Eslinger from the Department of Wisconsin would like to make a motion that we thank, commend them for the job they've done. I've been a recipient of that help, and they've been excellent. They've served well, and they've been right on target at all times. I think we should thank them with a round of applause.

Commander **Cardosi**. Thank you very much.

Mike 3.

Mr. **Henderson**. I'm Russ Henderson, past department commander and chaplain of the State of Virginia. I second that motion.

Commander **Cardosi**. It's been moved and seconded. Is there any discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor, signify by saying Aye; any opposed. Ayes have it, and so ordered. Thank you very much.

Mike 3.

Mr. **Fantanza**. Fantanza, New York 15. Since we've got a lot of time, maybe I ought to tell a story.

Commander **Cardosi**. Oh, no, no, no. No, Frank. I've heard some of your stories, and I'm going to rule you out of order. [Laughter.]

I'm going to call on our national chaplain at this time.

Mr. **Fantanza**. Oh, you're going to have him tell a story.

Chaplain **Wilkie**. Commander, Adjutant Joeckel and fellow comrades, as unaccustomed to public speaking as I am [laughter], it seems as though we're called upon to try to share a word or two. First of all, I would like to thank everyone that attended my seminar yesterday. We had about 130-some people that were in the room, and I certainly enjoyed the fellowship and sharing with you.

But, you know, one of the things that came up time and time again in the seminar is the idea and the fact that without each one of you, DAV cannot perform. You elect us to an office, and you elevate us to a place of service and leadership, but without you we can't perform. And again, I'd just like to add my voice to those that have been commending and complimenting each of you in the local chapters, the departments and across the nation and around the world, for that matter, for the job that you've done.

You know, it seems to me that folks say to me in my responsibilities as being a leader in the area of religion, when I get to worrying about the way things are not going, they say to me, "Oh, Preacher, don't worry about it. You know, if God wants something done, He'll get it done." I'm here to tell you today that's not necessarily so, until, until He finds a person who is a willing instrument through which He can work.

I happen to know that over in Pennsylvania there are mountains of iron ore, but I also happen to know that God has never made an automobile. I happen to know that in Greece there are mountains of marble, but I also happen to know God has never constructed a palace or a castle. He has depended upon some people to be an instrument through which he can work to make things happen.

And I guess that's the bottom line of what I want to share with you in this moment, is that you are the movers and the shakers. You are the ones that make things happen, and we are called upon by God to continue, and we are here, and we have committed ourselves. You are here as a commitment to continue to making things happen for veterans and their families.

I'm reminded of a time when a reporter came and talked to Antonio Stradivari. You remember him. He's the guy that built the "git" fiddle that we call it in Oklahoma, or the violin. They came to Antonio, and they said, "Mr. Stradivari, we understand that it takes you years to develop one of your violins. Why do you spend so much time on it?"

And the answer that he gave was simply, he said, "You know, God gives people talent and ability to be able to play the violin. God gives to Antonio Stradivari a block of wood, and God asked Antonio Stradivari to make an instrument upon which those people whom He has given talent to play upon. But God can't make Antonio Stradivari's violin without Antonio Stradivari."

Hey, there's a sermon in that somewhere. You know, God gives us opportunities, He truly does. And He calls upon us to have concern and compassion for the needs of veterans and their families through this organization. And as much as God wants to give us all of those blessings we preachers like to talk about, He can't do it until we are willing to receive it and to share it. And that's what we in the DAV are really all about.

But there are times, I notice—how am I doing, Commander? [Laughter.] There are times, I understand, when all of us are tempted at least to do things simply because it's the thing to do. Reminds me—I like to bring a little, oh, class along to where I—do we have any schoolteachers out there? I tell you what, if you're a schoolteacher or if you are familiar with Aesop's Fables, would you keep me straight? I want to be faithful to Aesop's Fable, okay? I don't want to get away from it. But now, you keep me straight.

In one of Aesop's Fables, he tells a story about a man, a boy and a donkey. The man and the boy would take the donkey each morning, and the way they made their living was to cut sticks or to cut wood and to load them on the donkey and take the wood to town to sell.

Well, one morning, they got all of their work done, and they had the donkey loaded with the wood and started to town. A woman came running out of the house across the street and said, "I cannot believe you all are doing this. I cannot believe you all are doing that to that poor donkey. That donkey has been a beast of burden all of his life. Now, young man, you are young. You've got your life in front of you. You carry them sticks. And old man, you carry that donkey."

Well, you've got to do it, right? I mean, you've got to do what everybody wants you to do, right? Yes. You've got to fit in.

Well, here they were and they were about to cross the bridge, but they thought about it, and they thought that the woman was right, so the little boy took the sticks and the old man got under the donkey, and he got him on his shoulders and lifted him up, you know. And here he was, kind of trying to—and the donkey heavy.

The old man staggered up against the bridge. The donkey fell off his shoulders, fell into the river and drowned.

The moral of this story is that if you try to do what everybody wants you to do, if you try to just fit in, you are going to lose your donkey. [Laughter and applause.]

It's interesting to note that as we do our best to try to serve our fellow veteran, we have all kinds of opportunities that present themselves. I don't know if you all are aware of it or not, but I understand that Vern Cardosi has a grandson that they named Vern, and Vern Senior, grandpa, kind of likes to take Vern, grandson out with him every once in a while.

And I heard a story that was told about how that Vern took the grandson to the grocery store, the supermarket for the first time. And as they got into the supermarket, the grandson sat up in one of those little seats like what they have in the shopping carts, and as they started down through there, well, the first thing they came to was the bread section, and the grandson reached out and grabbed him a handful of loaves of bread, and they all went on the floor, and here Vern got them and put them back up on the shelf and said, "Now, Vern, don't do that."

Well, they went on down just a little ways and they got down by the pickle section, and little Vern kind of liked pickles, and he reached out for a jar of pickles, and he pulled two or three off and they fell on the floor and broke, and Vernon had to say, "Vern, be good, Vern. Be good. We're going to be out of here in a minute, Vern. Just be good, Vern."

Well, they went around a corner and they went by the cereal section. And as they're going along, little Vern reached out and, sure enough, he dragged all those cereal boxes off on the floor, and Vern says, "Please, please, Vern, be good. Please, Vern, be good. Now, now, Vern, don't cry, Vern. We're going to be out of here in a minute, Vern."

And they finally got up to the checkout thing to get out, and he was still saying, "Oh, Vern, don't cry. Please, Vern, don't cry. We're going to be out of here in a minute."

And the checkout lady said, "It's so comforting to hear a man talk to his little boy in such a fine way. We have so many come through here and they get all—it's so comforting to hear a man talk to his child that way."

And Vernon said, "Child, hell! I'm Vern." [Laughter.]

And I kind of think that's the way that he's trying to feel right now, is he's trying to get this nomination thing over with. You know, don't cry; we're going to be out of here in a minute. [Laughter.]

But it is rather comforting to know that as we move along with our lives, that we have many, many things that help us along, and basically the thing that helps us along is, Number 1, I believe, our faith in God, which makes us and allows us to have faith in our fellow man, and to be able to help and to share and to do what we can to alleviate the sufferings that each other has every day of our life. Not one of us are exempted from pain and disappointment.

Ah, but there is One Who loves us all. The prayer we pray is to one God, and the love we feel for each other comes from a deep-seated faith.

And as I said at the C&A yesterday, I believe that these who are our past officers and leaders give to us certain strengths that we need, that we can be the foundations upon which the future will build continuing service to our disabled American veterans and their families. What a joy it is to be a part of your team. And it's been exciting, and it's going to continue to be exciting.

How am I doing, Commander? Well, let's see. There ought to be another word or two that we can share with you. I'm very grateful that you all have been kind to me, and if those in the Auxiliary—if there are any of you out there that heard the story already—you'll forgive me.

I shared with the Auxiliary the other day and I might as well share it with you, because certainly you deserve the plaudits as well. You have been very kind to me. You know, you have not treated me at all like the fellow that took his dog down to the vet and said, "I want this dog's tail cut off."

And the vet looked at the dog and said, "Hey, that's a big dog. You cut that dog's tail off, it's going to hurt him. I don't want to do that."

"I want the dog's tail cut off."

"Well, I don't understand. I don't want to hurt that dog. Why do you want to cut that big dog's tail off?"

And the man said, "My mother-in-law's coming tomorrow, and I don't want no visible sign of welcome." [Laughter.]

Well, you all haven't treated me that way, and I appreciate it.

There was a salesman that came to our little town down in Oklahoma here recently, and we kind of got a little small town. We've got the one motel there in town. And it was rather warm on that evening, and he got to town, he got him a room at the motel, and then he went on out to try to sell his wares.

And the economy in Oklahoma hasn't been all that great lately, but he went out and he thought he'd try to sell his wares. And as he went around from door to door to door and no sales, finally he just gave up and went back to the motel, decided he'd just kind of lie down on the bed and watch a little television. Looked over and there was no television set. Thought he'd go to the telephone to complain about that, and there wasn't a telephone.

He decided, "Well, I'll just go down to the desk clerk and complain about all this." Got down to the desk clerk and said, "There's no television set in my room."

And the clerk said, "We don't believe in no television here."

Well, he said, "Well, there's not a telephone in my room either."

"We don't believe in no telephone here either."

He said, "Well, do you mind if I go over there and read the paper and have a smoke?

"We don't believe in no tobacco here either."

"Well, can you tell me if there's a bar?"

"We don't believe in no alcohol here either."

The man says, "What in the world do you people believe in anyway?"

The desk clerk said, "We don't believe in nothing but the second coming of Jesus."

The man said, "If He ever stayed here, He ain't a'coming back." [Laughter.]

You know, I have learned that whenever I try to speak to a group of people, I have to be very careful in what I'm trying to do, because isn't it strange, I don't feel like I have an accent? [Laughter.] A Red River brogue maybe. But you know, whenever I talk, sometimes people don't really understand what I'm trying to say.

I remember one time when I was called to come before a group of third-graders in school, and we were talking about the effects of alcohol on the body. Well, I thought I'd be real wise and I took me a beaker of alcohol and a beaker of good fresh Kiamichi water and set them here on the podium. And I went out and got me a night crawler. For those of you all who don't know what a night crawler is, it is a red worm what we use to put on a hook to go fishing.

But anyway, we got me the red worm and the beaker of water and the beaker of alcohol, and I was ready. I said, "Now, young people, I want to show you all the effects of alcohol upon the body. Pay attention." And I reached in my pocket, and I pulled out the red worm, and kind of stretched him out real good, reached over and dropped him in the beaker of good fresh water, and he just kind of flopped around, had a good time, you know. Just doing good.

Then I reached over, I said, "All right now, boys and girls, I want you all to watch what happens." I reached in and I got the red worm out, kind of dried him off. Reached over and dropped him in the beaker of alcohol, and he just went blah, died.

I said, "Now, boys and girls, what does that tell you?"

And a little boy right on the front row raised his hand and said, "I know, I know, I know."

I said, "All right, son. What does that mean to you?"

He said, "If you don't want to have worms, drink alcohol." [Laughter.]

You've got to be careful. You've got to be careful.

I, of course, am called upon to do a little visitation in my line of work. Of course, that's getting to be kind of unheard of, kind of like a doctor doesn't make house calls any more. But we preachers still have to make a few house calls.

So one day I decided I might ought to try to do some more of that, so I started down the street there in Idabelle, America. I went out there and I knocked on this one door, and a voice inside said, "Come in."

Well, I hadn't been used to being invited to come in that way, you know, but anyway, I just reached down, opened the door, and sure enough it was unlocked. I pushed it open. The voice saying, "Come in." I went in, and just as I shut the door behind me, the biggest Doberman Pinscher I ever saw put his paws on my shoulder, knocked me to the floor and stood there going, "Hah, hah, hah, hah, hah." [Breathing heavily.]

Still that voice saying, "Come in." I look around that dog, looked up there, and on the perch was a parrot saying, "Come in."

I looked at that bird, I said, "Can't you say nothing else?"

He said, "Sic him." [Laughter.]

There are times whenever we think that we really know it all, I guess, we kind of got it all kind of made, and we've got all the information—do you know people, you know, that's kind of a know-it-all? You know, they just know everything there is to know.

Kind of reminds me of the man who had a little boy just getting to be big enough to start taking duck hunting with him, you know. Now, if you ain't ever gone out at the crack of dawn and crawled on your tummy across the mud flats into a duck blind, and it's always late in the fall when you do this, so you get to sit there and shiver and shake and freeze. Oh, but it's fun.

Anyway, this fellow thought he might ought to go ahead and teach his son how to go about this thing of duck hunting right, because, after all, he was the best duck hunter there ever was. So they got up early one morning and they took out out there. You know, sometimes we don't admit mistakes, even when they happen. We're so perfect, we are.

But they got out there anyway, and they did all this. They crawled across the mud flat. They got out to the blind, and they sat there shivering, waiting on the sun to come up. And sure enough, just as the dawn began to break, here come a duck flying across the lake.

The father said, "Be quiet, son. Now you're going to see how it's done right. Here comes the duck." The father raised his old trusty shotgun, followed him along. Boom! Blew the morning quietness plum apart. And here went the old duck.

The father looked around at his son and said, "Son, you have just witnessed a miracle. Yonder flies a dead duck." [Laughter.]

We won't admit our mistakes sometimes even when they happen.

How am I doing, Commander? All right. Hey, it has been a joy sharing with you all this morning. [Laughter.] I'm so glad he's here. Bye! [Laughter and applause.]

Commander CARDOSI. You know, the reverend must have a pipeline to The Lord, because the chairman of the Nominating Committee just arrived. Reverend, I want to thank you so very much.

Mike 1.

Mr. CAUBLE. Lavake Cauble, department commander, South Carolina, Chapter 52. The Department of South Carolina would like to thank the Disabled American Veterans National Office for their support during our terrible Hurricane Hugo. The National Office provided $200,000 to over 900 veterans and their families during this crisis.

The Department of South Carolina would also like to thank all those departments and all those chapters throughout the United States that provided aid and assistance during that period of time. Thank you so much.

Commander CARDOSI. Thank you for those kind words. [Applause.]

At this time, I now call—Mike 1.

Mr. CONNELLY. Commander, Joe Connelly, Department of Michigan, commander of Lavonia Chapter 114, Department of Michigan. Commander Cardosi, Commander Andry, on behalf of the POW Committee/MIA Committee in Michigan, and all the department committees, I would like to thank the national staff for flying the POW/MIA flag.

I would also like to remind the delegates here that Congress has authorized September 21st as National POW/MIA Recognition Day, and if all the chapters in the country could participate in the various activities for POW/MIA Day, it would go a lot to further the information for all Americans that we still have 2300 Americans still missing in Southeast Asia, over 8,000 in Korea, and 78,000 from World War II.

Thank you very much, Commander.

Commander CARDOSI. Thank you. [Applause.]

And now I'd like to call for a report of the Committee on Nominations for National Officers.

Mr. CACHIANES. Good morning, comrades. Sorry. I'm not really late. You have to understand, before I read the report, that I had to wait for it. Now, that's not a good excuse, but it happens to be the truth. Secondly, we interviewed a candidate today and three lawyers came in with him. Now, you know lawyers traditionally. They talk too much.

So with that, the report of this committee is very brief this morning. If you have any questions, by God, I'll be glad to answer them. So this is the final report, comrades and delegates, of the National Convention Committee on Nominations, and it was called to order at the first business session on Monday, July the 30th, 1990 by Committee Advisor Nick Cachianes.

The first order of business was the election of a convention committee chairman, and Nicholas Cachianes was nominated for chairman. There being no further nominations—this is not for the record, because we had a concrete mixer outside—they were closed and Mr. Cachianes was elected chairman.

The next order of business was the nomination and election of the secretary, and Leo LeRoux Michigan was nominated and elected as secretary of the committee.

The committee recessed until July 30th, 1990 to hear the candidates for national office. We thought we did that. We listened patiently, kindly, and we gave them the opportunity to speak, and we also took the privilege of the Committee on Nominations of asking questions as they pertained to the individual.

Eight candidates appeared before the committee, and the committee recessed until August 1st, 1990. Four candidates appeared before the committee, making a total of 12 at that time, you see.

So therefore, the final meeting was held on this morning, as you people know, and we saw one candidate, which made it a total of 13, and this is your recommendations, and I so move you, of the Committee on Nominations.

For the office of national commander, Joseph Andry from the State of Ohio [applause]; for the office of senior vice-commander, Cleveland Jordan from the District of Columbia [applause]; for the office of junior vice-commander, Parker Rice from the State of California [applause]; for the office of junior vice-commander, Comrade Marbes from the State of Wisconsin [applause]; for the office of junior vice-commander, Thomas McMasters from the State of Michigan [applause]; for the final office of junior vice-commander, Comrade Joseph Zengerle from the State of New Jersey. [Applause.]

For national judge advocate, Stan Pealer from the State of Missouri [applause]; and last, but not least, for the office of national chaplain, Oscar Wilkie from the State of Oklahoma. [Applause.]

Comrade Commander, this completes the report of the Committee on Nomination of National Officers, and I move the adoption of this report, and that the committee be discharged with thank you of your patience and diligence of all you delegates and friends. Thank you, sir.

Commander CARDOSI. Thank you.

Our Bylaws provide that nominations will be made from the floor, and this will be done. First, though, I would call for a second that the report of the Committee on Nomination for National Officers be adopted and the committee be discharged with thanks. Mike 1.

Past Commander LINDEN. Al Linden, delegate, Chapter 90, Florida, seconds the motion.

Commander CARDOSI. Thank you.

Now I will read the following men have been nominated: National commander, Joseph E. Andry; national senior vice-commander, Cleveland Jordan; national 1st junior vice-commander, Parker B. Rice; national 2nd junior vice-commander, Richard E. Marbes; national 3rd junior vice-commander, Thomas A. McMasters, III; national 4th junior vice-commander, Joseph E. Zengerle; national judge advocate, Stan Pealer; and national chaplain, Oscar I. Wilkie.

The Chair now calls, all those in favor, signify by—any discussion first? Hearing none, all those in favor, signify by saying Aye; opposed. The Ayes have it, and so ordered. [Applause.]

You've heard the report of the Committee on Nomination for National Office, and they have nominated Joseph E. Andry for national commander. Here to second the nomination is Paul DeMichael from the great State of Ohio.

Mr. PAUL DEMICHAEL. Mr. Commander, I rise to second the nomination of an exceptional leader, a man who will bring dynamic energy and insight to the highest office in America's greatest veterans organization.

Joe Andry first proved his lifelong commitment to excellence in high school, where he was a cross-country runner. Having won recognition as a top athlete in Ohio, Joe was truly good enough to dream of representing our nation in the Olympics.

He carried that dream into the Armed Forces when he answered our country's call to arms. He cherished as he faced the trials of a combat soldier in Vietnam. But the day came when he watched that dream evaporate in the smoke of an enemy booby-trap. The explosion resulted in the loss of a leg, the loss of an eye and multiple shell fragment wounds all over his face and body.

At this point, a lesser man might have packed it in, but Joe directed his boundless energy toward a new goal, helping his fellow disabled veterans. The wheelchair he used back then couldn't slow him down as he returned to school. He earned degrees in secondary education, business management and labor relations, and his achievement at Cleveland State University earned him recognition as an outstanding distinguished alumnus.

Joe's career of service to his fellow veterans began with a visit to the Cleveland National Service Office. With the help of the Vocational Rehabilitation Division, he got a job as a veterans' benefits counselor. Later he would work for the U. S. Department of Labor, rising to the post of state director of veterans employment in Ohio.

But still Joe felt he wasn't doing enough for veterans. So early on, he became active at the local level of the DAV. He is a life member of DAV Chapter 96, which he served as commander from 1980 to 1983. He is also a life member of the National Amputation Chapter.

Along the way, the depth of Joe's commitment caught the eye of the DAV national organization. In 1979, he was honored as the nation's Outstanding Disabled Veteran of the year. Five years later, Joe's fellow disabled veterans in Ohio chose him as the department commander, and he currently serves the State of Ohio as the department executive director.

Happily married with five children, Joe's work for veterans and other handicapped people extends far beyond 9:00 to 5:00. Ohio's governor appointed Joe to the state's War Orphans Scholarship Council and the Council for Disabled Persons. He has also been elected president of the Columbus, Ohio Mayor's Council on Disabled Veterans.

Through the years, we in Ohio have been privileged to watch this gentleman dedicate and rededicate his life to the cause of America's disabled veterans. Each and every one of you has seen his admirable service as a national officer.

Joe's disabilities could have stopped the average person, yet, with these handicaps, he has demonstrated everything a disabled veteran can become. Time and time again, as he traveled that path, he proved that he has leadership qualities far beyond the average run of men. He has proven himself to be a man of stature.

Mr. Commander, delegates and distinguished guests, on behalf of the Department of Ohio, it's my distinct pleasure to second the nomination of the DAV's next national commander, Mr. Joseph E. Andry. [Rising applause.]

Commander CARDOSI. The Chair will now call for further nominations for the office of national commander. Is there any further nomination for the office of national commander? Is there any further nomination for the office of national commander? Is there any further nomination for the office of national commander? Mike 2.

Mr. BARILE. Tony Barile, Department of New Jersey, Chapter 73. I make a motion that we close nominations for national commander and that the adjutant cast one ballot.

Commander CARDOSI. I'll do that, sir.

If there are no further nominations, I close nominations and declare Joseph E. Andry elected as national commander, and I will instruct the national adjutant to cast one unanimous ballot for the election. Thank you.

Mr. BARILE. Comrade Commander.

Commander CARDOSI. Yes, sir.

Mr. **Barile**. I think that motion I made is in order.

Commander **Cardosi**. I don't think so, sir. It's been moved and seconded.

I already instructed you to cast one ballot.

Adjutant **Joeckel**. Have you instructed me?

Commander **Cardosi**. Yes, I certainly did.

Adjutant **Joeckel**. Thank you, Commander. I, Charles E. Joeckel, Jr., national adjutant of the Disabled American Veterans, hereby cast one unanimous ballot for Joseph Andry for the office of national commander.

Commander **Cardosi**. Thank you. [Applause.] Thank you very much.

Moving right along. The Nominations Committee has nominated Cleveland Jordan for the office of national senior vice-commander. I will now call for any further nominations for the office of national senior vice-commander. Are there any further nominations for the office of national senior vice-commander? Are there any further nominations for the office of national senior vice-commander? Are there any further nominations for the office of national senior vice-commander?

If there are no further nominations, I close the nominations and declare Cleveland Jordan elected as national senior vice-commander.

Mike 2.

Mr. **Feighner**. Feighner, Cincinnati 1, Ohio. I move you, sir, that you ascertain if there are any other nominations for any other office, and if there be none, then that the Rules be suspended, and that the entire slate of officers be elected.

Commander **Cardosi**. No, I'm going to—okay. I'm going to recognize you, sir. Go ahead.

Mr. **Feighner**. I already made the motion.

Commander **Cardosi**. Is there a second to that motion?

Mr. **Harold**. Harold, Boston 10, seconds the motion.

Commander **Cardosi**. Is there any discussion? All those in favor, signify by saying Aye. Are there any opposed? The Ayes so ordered.

Mike 2.

Mr. **Harold**. Comrade Commander, could you have the adjutant cast one ballot?

Commander **Cardosi**. I am, Joe. Thank you. Go ahead, Joe. Continue.

Mr. **Harold**. Could you have the national adjutant cast one unanimous ballot for the election of those persons that we just elected?

Commander **Cardosi**. You heard the motion. Is there a second?

Mr. **Harold**. I don't think a second is necessary.

Commander **Cardosi**. Okay. Thank you, Joe. Stay there, Joe.

All those in favor, signify by saying Aye; any opposed. So ordered.

Comrade Adjutant.

Adjutant **Joeckel**. Thank you, Commander. As instructed, I, Charles E. Joeckel, Jr., national adjutant of the Disabled American Veterans, cast one unanimous ballot for Cleveland Jordan for national senior vice-commander; Parker Rice, for national 1st junior vice-commander; Richard Marbes, for national 2nd junior vice-commander; Thomas McMasters, for national 3rd junior vice-commander; Joseph Zengerle, for national 4th junior vice-commander; San Pealer, for national judge advocate; and Oscar Wilkie, for national chaplain.

Commander CARDOSI. Thank you. They're all elected. [Applause.]

At this time, I'd like the wives and families of the newly elected officers to be escorted on the stage.

Mr. HAROLD. Comrade Commander.

Commander CARDOSI. Yes, sir.

Mr. HAROLD. Joe Harold. It's that moment, Commander, that we should say something nice about you.

Commander CARDOSI. YOu want to say something nice about me? [Laughter.] I can sure use it. Go ahead, Joe.

Mr. HAROLD. You've had a long five years, and I recall five years ago when I first suggested to you you should be a candidate for national office, and you said to me, "Who? Me? I'm not even a war hero."

And I said to you, "Let's take it a step at a time." And you did take my suggestions, and we had troubles the first two or three years, but you made it. You had five years. You were great. You had the support of everyone I know of, from the Washington Headquarters to Cincinnati Headquarters, the national staff, and especially the members of the Massachusetts group that's so loyal and thankful for you.

And I just want to say thank you, and I hope the delegates at this convention will give you a last thank you, Vern. Thank you.

Commander CARDOSI. Thank you very much, Joe. [Rising applause.]

At this time, I'd just like to say I want to thank each and every one of you for the many friends, the lasting friends that I have made. I think everything that Joe said, he hit the nail right on the head. Those are my words exactly to Joe.

But I want to thank you for accepting me, all you people out there, and I made so many friends, lasting friends. You know, I'm going to echo again what I've always said. You can't do the job alone, believe me, without the fine staff that we have; without that man right over there on the telephone, Butch Joeckel, who's worked so hard constantly—people don't realize how hard that man works—without our fine staff; and I'm going to add, without the beautiful secretaries of this organization. I don't know where we get such fine ladies and gentlemen.

We have a couple of them right here. This is Sandy, lovely Sandy right there on the stage. Why don't you stand up, Sandy? [Applause.] These girls don't work 9:00 to 5:00. Are there any others in the audience? Daryl's down there. Daryl, stand up. [Applause.] Daryl from Washington. And the rest of them are down in the office. They're working. They're fabulous.

I want to thank them for all the help they've given me, our fine staff, but especially you, the members of the DAV. Thank you so very, very much. I appreciate it. [Applause.]

And now it gives me great pleasure to introduce a young man who's going to make this organization very proud. I've known Joe for a good many years now, and he's been there for me, and God willing, if he needs me, I'll always be there for him. With Joe

Andry at the helm, our organization's truly going to reach great heights.

It gives me great pleasure to introduce our new commander, Joe Andry from the great State of Ohio. Joe, God bless you. [Rising applause.]

Incoming Commander **Joseph Andry**. Thank you. Thank you so much. Thank you, Commander Vern, for those kinds words of introduction. Newly elected national officers, distinguished guests, friends, delegates to the DAV's 69th National Convention, and ladies and gentlemen: I thank each of you from the bottom of my heart for electing me as your new national commander. You've given me the greatest honor of my life, and you've earned my ardent gratitude.

If you'll indulge me for a moment, I would like to introduce some of the people who made all this possible, part of my DAV family. Over here, down below, are a lot of the workers, the delegates from Ohio, and also the membership back in Ohio. If you'd please rise, and give them a great hand of applause. They've been very supportive of me throughout the whole time. [Applause.]

I'd also like to take and thank the NSOs. They've been very instrumental and very supportive. Frank Ratz from Ohio. And then there's four people who've been on my committee as I've come up also, and that's Verne Nygaard, Beryl U. Ward, Robert O'Dell and Arthur L. Leach.

Now I'd like to introduce some of the people who've come to join me today. I'd like to introduce my family: My Aunt Louise from Sun City, California came over here to join us today [applause]; and my sister came in from Cleveland, my sister Sue and her daughter, Amber and son, Ben. [Applause.]

I'd also like to take and thank my mom, Mary Surtos and her husband, Leno. [Applause.]

And there's the family. The boys aren't here, Brick, Tommy or Ryan. But we have the daughters here, daughters Kristin and Barbie. [Applause.]

And there's another special lady, very special lady to me, who's been very supportive, been there for me, straightens me out when I need it, and she's going to be traveling with me this year, and she's my best friend. That's my wife, Julie. [Applause.]

There's one more person I want to introduce, someone who really inspired me when I first came home from Vietnam. My dear friend, John Binnion, taught me so much, not only as a professor at Cleveland State University, but as a human being and a fellow disabled veteran. John is a past national commander of the Military Order of the Purple Heart and past president of the organization's Service Foundation.

A few months back he told me he'd like to be the first DAV member I recruited if I were elected to the office of DAV national commander. Well, John, I was fortunate enough to be elected, and I'm holding you to your word. If you'll step forward, I have your life membership card right here in my hand, and I want to thank you so much for coming. [Applause.]

Mr. **John E. Binnion**. I'm too emotional. I just can't do it. But I'm really proud of this guy, I really am. He's like a son to me, and

I think that you've done a great service to your organization to elect him your new national commander.

I did have some things to say. I'm going to give them to the recorder down here. But you can just read my lips. I'm proud of him. [Applause.]

[The following are Mr. Binnion's prepared remarks:]

Ladies and gentlemen: As some of you know, and most others can guess, teachers like to brag about their students, especially those who 'make good.' So, consider your new commander, Joe Andry, and me.

Joe and Gerry, another Vietnam War vet and amputee, and I arrived at Cleveland State University at the same time. Joe and Gerry, fresh out of military hospitals with new artificial body parts, immediately became my very close friends. And for the next four or five years we saw each other almost daily. Never, in more than 30 years in teaching, had I been so close to students.

Joe was preparing to be a high school teacher of business subjects and a coach, a track coach. But when observation and student teaching came along, he found his heart breaking. Why? Well, as a student at St. Joseph's High School, he was a track man, a good one. In fact, as a senior, he was Number 1 in Ohio in the mile run and won a gold medal. A gold medal man then and now.

But now, well, he could not show the boys how to run; he could only tell them. That was not enough. Joe was devastated. He went on, however, and finished the certification program. Then he earned another degree in business management.

During part of this time, he was learning the trade of a national service officer. He worked at that, then with the State of Ohio, then with the U. S. Department of Labor. And it was at the latter job that he was honored as one of the ten Outstanding Handicapped Federal Employees of the Year.

Now in 1990, he has received two more great honors. In May he was honored as CSU celebrated its 25th anniversary as a State of Ohio university. CSU is over 100 years old. Joe was chosen as one of CSU's 25 outstanding graduates, out of more than 25,000, to be honored.

And now, at DAV's 69th Annual Convention, you are honoring him as your new national commander for your 70th year. Ladies and gentlemen, you have done yourselves proud. Joe Andry is a fine person, a shining example of patriotism, a loyal American citizen. You could have done no better.

Incoming Commander ANDRY. Thank you. Well, that's the first life member from my term as commander, and I hope everyone here takes that as a cue for the emphasis I place on membership growth. I want to hurry up, get out there and get those members.

Yes, sir, James.

Mr. FRIESEMA. Commander Andry, the ink isn't even dry on these applications.

But, first of all, National Commander Cardosi, national officers and delegates: At the beginning of the year, Butch Joeckel, our national adjutant, reported in his monthly column in our DAV magazine that information had been received at National Headquarters, which was attributed to a House Subcommittee on Veterans Affairs that a plan was in the making that would eliminate 13,000 VA hospital beds. Butch further commented by saying that now there were 13,000 reasons to recruit potential members for the simple reason that his or her name could possibly be on one of those beds to be eliminated.

That information, Commander, was enough to get this recruiter going, and I immediately called our national membership director, Charles Luttjohann, for his perceptive list of potential members in the area where I reside. Upon receipt of that list, my wife and I went to work to make personal contact from the list of 391 potentials, and the results of our efforts are as follows.

Commander, and with your permission, I have a presentation to make to our now national commander, Joe Andry. Joe, when you attended the Michigan convention this June, I informed you that I was making every effort on your behalf to get your 1990–91 membership campaign off to a record year. With that in mind, Joe, it is my pleasure to present to you on behalf of Keane-Rankin Metropolitan Detroit Chapter Number 1, 164 new life members in the greatest veterans organization of all, the Disabled American Veterans. [Applause.]

Now, Joe, knowing that you are a great or a die-hard Ohio State fan, Bo Shimbeckler in Detroit Chapter Number 1 is pleased to present to you an official University of Michigan T-shirt and, of course, a Big-M hat. Go blue. [Applause.]

Incoming Commander ANDRY. Thank you, Jim.

My fellow DAV members, as I stand before you, I feel so proud and yet so humbled by the confidence you have just placed in me. My thoughts keep returning to August 27th, 1969, the day I established my eligibility for membership in this great organization.

Back in the United States, there was a group of veterans who had already gone through that ordeal that was now facing me. They were the members of the Disabled American Veterans. They had met the challenges that confronted them as individuals when they came home from World War I, Second World War, and Korea, and they had met the challenges that faced all disabled veterans as a group.

In doing so, they ensured that I and other soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines, disabled during the Vietnam War, would receive adequate health care and compensation.

I can't help thinking about those men and women as I recall the theme of our convention this year. We've always been an organization that's committed to meeting tomorrow's challenges. Take the challenges that have been thrown at us by uncaring budget cutters, and those in private sector medicine who equate bullet wounds with dollar signs. We've met and surpassed every one and will continue to do so.

As we move into the '90s, we know America's disabled veterans will have to continue to fight for the benefits we earned with our loyalty, dedication and blood. I feel a deep sense of confidence as we move into that future. For one thing, our great organization has been blessed with great leadership. We owe a debt to men like my good friend and mentor, Vernon Cardosi, Past National Commander Billy Kirby, and all of our distinguished past national commanders. Men like Dale Adams have devoted their lives to this, the most noble cause in this country.

I'm so grateful for that, and for the DAV's current leadership headed by Butch Joeckel, a man who never quits fighting for America's disabled veterans.

Yes, we have reason to feel thankful for the DAV's dynamic leadership, past and present, but it is all of us, each and every one of us, who must carry the DAV's cause into action today and tomorrow. I'm not talking only about those gathered here today; I include the more than 1.1 million DAV members across this land. Together, we've risen up with one clear voice demanding that America continue to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan.

We view that promise, made more than a century ago by Abraham Lincoln, as a sacred trust, a covenant between our nation and her disabled defenders, and whenever it is challenged, our voice will not be stilled. I believe in fiscal responsibility; nearly all Americans do. But there's nothing responsible about using fiscal austerity as an excuse to push aside ethics and morality in the treatment of disabled veterans.

On this front, the DAV has borne the battle and set the standard in years past, and now the torch has been passed to us, to you and to me. We must carry that torch into the times up ahead, bringing light and hope into the uncertain future faced by disabled veterans and their families.

You have elected me to lead the Disabled American Veterans, and I am ready to lead. [Applause.]

Yet my elation this morning is tempered by the seriousness of the tasks that lie ahead. I am only too aware that by myself I can accomplish nothing. But we are united behind the cause of America's disabled veterans, a cause that needs no justification, a cause that shouts for justice.

We'll continue our membership growth that's so necessary for the DAV's success. We'll do everything possible to build a bright tomorrow for all disabled veterans. Our unmatched assistance to America's veterans has been proven repeatedly by our national service officers and our hospital service coordinators. We'll bolster that commitment as we move into the future.

The DAV and Auxiliary have set the standard in voluntary efforts like VAVS, the transportation network, the Older Veterans Assistance Program, and so much more. And over the last five days, we've redoubled our efforts on all of those fronts.

In saying this, I'm convinced that volunteer action expresses the heart and soul of DAV membership in a very unique way. The DAV does so many things in so many ways for so many people. But our volunteer programs show that we care about each other in a deeply personal way.

We in the DAV have so much in which we can take meaningful pride. Truly, where others are only willing to follow, we have never hesitated to lead. No challenge has ever been too much for us.

In memory of those who carried on the struggle in years past, and on behalf of those who might, God forbid, become the disabled veterans of the future, we will meet tomorrow's challenges. We will meet them with hearts full of courage, enthusiasm, and determination.

Thank you, thank you so very much. God bless and Godspeed. [Rising applause.]

Commander CARDOSI. Now, it gives me great pleasure to introduce another gentleman that I've known for a good many years from the great District of Columbia, Cleveland Jordan, senior vice-commander. [Applause.]

Incoming Senior Vice-Commander **CLEVELAND JORDAN**. Thank you, Commander Vernon. Commander-Elect Joe and National Adjutant Butch—I'm calling first names today, because I don't want to make the wrong mistake like I did last year—and to my fellow elected officers, and family members of the national officers, to the delegates attending this national convention here in Anaheim, and to visitors: Let me thank you for giving me another opportunity to be of service to this organization by serving as your national senior vice-commander.

A week ago today, the President of the United States signed a bill which is known as the Americans with Disabilities Act. That bill is supposed to bring about a change in the way employers treat individuals seeking employment with disabilities. The DAV has been doing that ever since it's been organized. We are trying to work with the fact that there are no individuals that are disabled. There is ability left in every one of us, no matter how bad we are.

With that ability, we can bring about a change. We're going to forget about the "dis." We are disabled, but being disabled, we do have ability to make a change. With that ability, combined with this organization, I do believe that the Disabled American Veterans will make a change. The Americans with Disabilities Act that was signed last week is geared towards employers.

Change, as was stated in Commander Shelia Allred's message Sunday afternoon, is something difficult for us take. We do not like to change, but sometimes we must change. The circumstances make everyone change at times.

And I'm going to change now and introduce my family in the DAV, the District of Columbia Department and the entire 6th District. Please stand for recognition. [Applause.] Thank you.

And also with me today—you may have seen two or three individuals running through the hotel, in the swimming pool, the arcades, or what. My son, a friend of his, and Vernon's son were running around the hotel, Cardosi's son. With me today is my son, Carlton and a friend of his, Paul. [Applause.]

And the individual that has kept all of us in line during the past week, but has kept them in line for the past week and a half because they chose to ride the train out here, and I chose not to, in the person of my wife, Dolores M. Jordan. [Applause.]

And to all of you, again, thank you for giving me the opportunity to be of service to you for another year. Thank you very much. [Applause.]

Commander CARDOSI. Congratulations, Cleveland.

And now it gives me a great pleasure to introduce a gentleman who's just been elected national first junior vice-commander from that small state, very small state, the 100,000-member State of California, Parker Rice. [Applause.]

Incoming 1st Junior Vice-Commander PARKER RICE. Thank you. Commander Cardosi, National Adjutant Butch Joeckel, national officers, and, of course, our great new commander-elect, Joe Andry—and it was my pleasure to attend Ohio's department convention, and Joe and his wife were very gracious. It is a great honor to be elected your 1st national junior vice-commander, and it has been my honor to serve you this past year as your 2nd junior vice.

And I have served this organization for many years, but like each department, each chapter and each unit, we're only as good as the people that support us, and I'd like at this time if the members of that small state with 100,000 members from the State of California, please rise for recognition. [Applause.] Thank you, comrades.

You know, with all the joy and the privilege and pleasure it is to stand before you today, I have one regret that my wife could not be here with me. We have kind of served together for about 42 years, but unfortunately a commitment that both of us had made to our granddaughters that she now is serving the 4-H organization, attending a county fair with our two granddaughters. You folks from the country will understand that. Some of you from the city may not. But you from the country, I'm sure, will understand that.

You know, my dad told me one time when I was fairly young that the mind is a great thing. The minute that we're born it starts to work and starts to grow, and it continues to grow all through life. But the first time you begin to speak in public, you lose it all. [Laughter.]

Joe is going to be a great commander for this organization, and it's certainly my pleasure to work with him. I know with the team that we have, that it's going to be an outstanding year. One of Joe's themes is membership, and I want to assure him that each member of the State of California will try to match our last-year goal of 100,000.

I want to thank Past National Commander Vernon Cardosi for all of his efforts for this organization, and it was an honor to serve as his 2nd junior vice.

With each department, each member and each chapter and each auxiliary unit, we can have an outstanding year, but we have to work as a team, and with the leader that we have this year, I think we're going to have an outstanding year.

Again, it's my pleasure to serve this organization, and I want to thank you for the great honor. Thank you again. [Applause.]

Commander CARDOSI. Thank you very much, and congratulations, Parker.

Now it gives me great pleasure to introduce to you the newly elected 2nd junior vice-commander from the great State of Wisconsin, Richard E. Marbes. [Applause.]

Incoming 2nd Junior Vice-Commander RICHARD E. MARBES. To the national officers, national staff and their families, to all you great delegates to this 69th Annual Convention, and to the visitors and the guests, I join with my fellow officers in thanking you for the confidence placed in me as well as them to carry out the job of the DAV for the next year.

I hope that all of you have attended most of the sessions, and I think you will agree, from the very beginning in our memorial service on Sunday morning, when we listened again to the inspirational words of Chaplain Wilkie, on through that great, great Sunday opening session where we heard words of confidence and guidance from people both within and from outside of the organization—and I think that's very important—and they talked about the DAV, what it's done, what it is going to continue to do, and especially from those outsiders to hear about the confidence that they have in such a fine, fine organization that does everything that it does to assist veterans, disabled veterans and their families, I'm very, very proud to be a member of this organization and in particular of the staff and its leadership.

I would like to, in particular, also thank, for their confidence and their assistance in my becoming a national officer, the outgoing 12th NEC, Des Fortner and the incoming 12th NEC, Reba Eslinger, and the members of Wisconsin and Illinois, which comprise the

12th District. I think they're sitting right over there, and I wish you would stand for some recognition. YOu certainly deserve it. You've been very, very supportive, and I appreciate it. [Applause.]

I ask each of you as individual delegates that you take back the inspiration, the enthusiasm, the knowledge and the guidance that has been offered by all that we've seen and heard through the days that we've been here. And please, do share it with those back in your chapters, your auxiliary units who weren't able to be here with us. You do that, and with all the things that you've seen and heard here, then I'm certain that this organization is going to do an outstanding job this year.

With that, I would like to introduce some of my family that is here with me. We have two sons, Stephen and Tim, and a daughter, Susan, who could not be here, but with me this morning and throughout this convention, our two daughters, Pam—Pam is our oldest daughter. [Applause.] Our next oldest daughter is Amy. [Applause.]

And the lady in my life, and as department adjutant for Wisconsin, I have a lot of work to do and I depend on a lot of people, and this lady does an enormous amount of work and I want you to know that she doesn't get paid, but she's there to do it. She never hesitates. My wife, Mary Jane. [Applause.]

They're great, great supporters, and without them, I don't know how I'd ever make it.

Thank you all so, so much. God bless you. [Applause.]

Commander CARDOSI. And now from the great State of Michigan, our 3rd national junior vice-commander, Thomas A. McMasters, III. [Applause.]

3rd Junior VICE-COMMANDER THOMAS A. MCMASTERS, III. Well, Commander Vern, Commander Joe, Adjutant Butch, one of the first things I'd like to do is—these little things that were handed out at the door today are called "buckeye" nuts. They are not allowed in the State of Michigan anywhere. [Laughter.] And the only known toxic disposal area that will accept these things is located in Columbus, Ohio, so I'm going to give these back to Joe. [Laughter.] Columbus, Ohio is also the home of Ohio State University.

I'd like to thank you very much for electing me to another term as a national line officer. I learned an awful lot last year. I'm going to continue learning more this year. We know we have a lot to do. I

want to borrow one of your slogans, Joe. Last year we were soaring to new heights with Commander Vern. We're going to be meeting the challenges, and there are many, but together we can do it. We can do it.

I'd like the people from my district, Number 10, the great State of Michigan, located in the back there, who have supported me in this endeavor, to please stand and be recognized at this time. [Applause.]

As I've been traveling around the country, I've been comparing the different departments and the people in the departments to people that I know in the State of Michigan, and you find that no matter what department you go into, you have the same type of people, the same type of dedication. And you also find some of the same kind of people that seem to be a bother in your different departments, you can compare them with the people that you already know.

But they're a tremendous group from Michigan, and they've done a tremendous job this year. We had every single chapter in the Department of Michigan attain quota this year, which is quite an accomplishment.

I'd like to bring forward my family. You've been hearing the one little one calling, "Daddy, Daddy." That's Loren. My two daughters, Loren who's two; Kristin, who's five. [Applause.] And that's who these are. I have my little boy, Tom, who's 15—I think there's some chemicals somewhere. He's a pretty good size. [Applause.]

Also with me is my sister, Peggy, and the lady I refer to as "Superwoman." [Applause.] And Superwoman is, of course, my wife, Sandy, who manages. [Applause.] Without them, I wouldn't be here. [Applause.]

Commander CARDOSI. Congratulations, Tom.

You know, in Boston—I see all these youngsters out here. We have a group that came from Boston are very popular singers. They're called the New Kids on the Block. I'm sure you've all heard of them. They're from Boston, you know.

We have our new kid on the block, who's a great gentleman. I'd like to introduce our 4th junior vice-commander, Joseph C. Zengerle. [Applause.]

Incoming 4th Junior Vice-Commander JOSEPH C. ZENGERLE. As befitting the most junior member and the new person on the block, I'll try to be brief. I have three things to say. One is a thank-you, another is a warning, and the third is a statement.

As to the thank-you, I very much appreciate the support of District 1 from Massachusetts, where my sister lives and my business is based, for their unanimous endorsement today. I appreciate it very much, and I thank the great State of New Jersey and its department folks there, where I grew up as a child, for their support in Dallas, and I hope I can count on their support in the future.

As to the warning, I had a nice breakfast this morning with the delegates from Indiana and Ohio, and I told a little story that may get out, so I thought I would mention it first. My initial job when I was eight years old was on a farm, where they ran what some of you may recognize to be a common instrument there, called a manure spreader. They have a seat in the back that regulates the spray, and that's where I sat, and that was my first job.

That's only Part 1 of the warning. The second part is that I'm now a lawyer. [Laughter.] I'll try not to live up to all of that as we go forward.

As to the statement, Commander Joe Andry spoke to you about the origins of this wonderful organization, going back to World War I. I go back to World War I in my mind, and I think of an English poet by the name of Rupert Brooke, who wrote about his fellow soldiers fighting on the Continent.

> If I should die, think only this of me:
> That there's some corner of a foreign field
> That is forever England.

And I think that each one of you members of the DAV and your families, your loved ones, fit the mold of that poem and that meaning, that you give to your country, you gave to your country, and you have a part of you that is always abroad in the land, a spirit, if you will. It's the strength of the people of DAV, the strength of their commitment, of their history, and of their memory.

I think, too, of the DAV as a national organization. When I was a Defense Department official some ten years or so ago and invited all the veterans service organizations for a lunch, the only organization representatives that stayed behind and followed up and sought to use the small amount of authority I had were representatives from the Disabled American Veterans. That fact has never left my mind when I think about effectiveness, discipline and commitment.

And the last part of my thought has to do with national questions. I believe that we define ourselves as a nation by being reciprocal, reciprocal in the sense of the commitments that you give to the nation and the commitments that the nation in turn owes to you. I think we are a great nation today because of those commitments and because of that reciprocity.

And I believe that these three elements taken together, the personal values, strengths, experience of our people; the leadership of the organization, its traditions, its effectiveness, its discipline; and that reciprocal relationship with the United States of America, these are the things that make our country great and that in turn make us great.

And I pledge to Commander Joe Andry and the national officers and Adjutant Butch Joeckel and the national staff, all the energy I can muster to ensure the maintenance of that reciprocity, to ensure the maintenance of a great nation, and to the great members and organization of the Disabled American Veterans. Thank you. [Applause.]

Commander CARDOSI. Thank you, Joseph C. Zengerle.

And now the next gentleman is certainly no new kid on the block. He's from the great State of Missouri. He's our national judge advocate, and he's Stan Pealer. [Applause.]

Judge Advocate STAN PEALER. Thank you, Commander. Ladies and gentlemen, fellow delegates, it certainly is an honor for me once again just to have the privilege and the opportunity to stand before you today and to thank you for giving me the privilege of serving the greatest veterans organization in the world.

Over the past few years, I've had the opportunity and, as I say, the honor, of serving you, the members of this great organization, and I look forward to serving with that same devotion and dedication for many years to come in one capacity or the other.

So, I know the time is getting short this morning, but let me take one single opportunity to say thank you just for allowing me to once again serve you. Thank you. [Applause.]

Commander CARDOSI. And now the next gentleman I'd like to introduce—of course, he's not accustomed to public speaking, but I think he kind of saved the day today, didn't he?—our great national chaplain from the great State of Oklahoma, Rev. Oscar I. Wilkie, our national chaplain. [Applause.]

Chaplain WILKIE. Thank you, Commander Cardosi, Adjutant Joeckel, and all of the line officers and all of you. This has been a rookie year that will—it's going to take something to exceed what my experiences have been, and they've all been basically good, and because of all of you and of all of these. It is such a privilege to serve, it really is.

There is a line on the form that we have to fill out to take to the Nominating Committee. It says, "Why do you want to be a national officer?" I'll tell you what, when you start thinking about that, that's the most difficult question on the form. "Why do you want to be what you are?"

But I think the bottom line simply comes down to the same thing when I heard God call me into being a minister, that I simply want to help people. I'm not all that polished. I've got a master's, I've got a bachelor's, I've got certificates hanging on the wall. But having an education is not enough; it's what you do with it that counts. Being a member of the Disabled American Veterans is not enough; it's what you do with it that counts.

We've been talking about slogans. One of the slogans that I adopted early in my life was that I refuse to be pushed around by the problems I may have in life; God willing, I'm going to be led by my dreams. I read in that Book which I refer to frequently for inspiration that where there is no vision, the people perish.

With the slate of officers you have elected to lead this great organization of Disabled American Veterans, the vision is well intact, and I'm excited about what's about to happen because, as I said earlier, you have committed yourselves as instruments to making some things happen for veterans and their families and seeing to it that the goals and purposes and visions of this great organization do not fade from the face of the earth.

I said in the memorial address, as I opened it, I shared with you a quote from that great hymn, "My Country 'Tis of Thee, Sweet Land of Liberty." I guess I can close my remarks, to this extent at least, by sharing those once again with you. What a privilege you have shared with me, what an honor you've bestowed upon me, and I thank you for that.

I'd like for my DAV family—they're way back in the back—District Number 21, Oklahoma and Arkansas, would you greet them with me. I would appreciate that so very much. [Applause.] Hey, they moved up front a little bit here, didn't they? All right. Thank you. Thank you. And thank you all.

I would also, if you will allow me the privilege of presenting to you a lady who could not be with me last year, and is with me this year. She's put up with my nonsense for so many years, and she's been my support and my strength, and she, too, is my best friend. My wife, Joyce. Will you greet her, please? [Applause.]

Now, folks, I want you all to know this is the long and the short of it. [Laughter.]

We thank you. God bless you. If I can help you, please call me. And God bless America. [Applause.]

Commander CARDOSI. Thank you, Rev. Wilkie. He's wonderful.

We will now continue with the unfinished business of the convention. I will now entertain a motion to discharge the Credentials Committee with a vote of thanks. I'll entertain a motion at this time. Mike 1.

Mr. COX. Don Cox, Department of Arkansas commander, Chapter 57, so moves.

Commander CARDOSI. It's been moved. Mike 3.

Mr. WILSON. Gus Wilson, Azusa Chapter 64, 9th District commander, second that motion.

Commander CARDOSI. It's been moved and duly seconded. Is there any discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor, signify by saying Aye; opposed. Ayes have it, and so ordered.

Comrade Adjutant, do you have any announcements?

Adjutant JOECKEL. Presentation of the newly installed national officers of the DAV and Auxiliary will be held at 7:30 this evening in the California Pavilion. Everyone is invited to attend, and must have a ticket. [Laughter.]

The National Executive Committee will meet immediately following adjournment of the convention in Pacific Ballroom A on this level. We will have a swearing-in ceremony at that time. NEC alternates should also attend the swearing-in ceremony.

That's all.

Commander CARDOSI. Thank you.

And now, I will entertain a motion to adjourn the convention sine die. Mike 3.

Mr. THOMPSON. Gordon Thompson, Pacheco Chapter 79 from the smallest state in the Union, California, makes a motion that we adjourn the convention.

Commander CARDOSI. Do I hear a second? Mike 3.

Mr. ROBIDOUX. Bernie Robidoux from District 2 wants to send this motion.

Commander CARDOSI. It's been moved and duly seconded. Is there any discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor, signify by saying Aye; opposed. The Ayes have it, so ordered. Thank you so very, very much. [Applause.]

Comrade Chaplain, will you lead us in prayer?

Chaplain WILKIE. Let us pray. Most Holy and Glorious Lord God, we thank Thee for the grand and glorious hour that has been ours to gather in this fellowship. We thank You for the officers that have been elected and appointed to lead us in the ensuing year.

And now, as the mantle of this work has fallen upon the shoulders of our comrade, Joe Andry, we pray that Divine wisdom will be imparted to him that he may serve wisely and well. Give to him that physical strength to endure to the end of his year. Give him that mental capacity, that understanding, that spiritual courage which he needs.

God bless the men and women who have made the Disabled American Veterans organization what it has become. Bless the past commanders and other officers and those who are walking along with them, thousands of them throughout the world with their faith as missionaries preaching the gospels of courage, of good will, of brotherhood, and of peace.

And may we have our mouths open to preach the gospel of justice and fraternity in a world that desperately needs the gospel of brotherly love, relief and truth. And may we, O Father, go from this place with the inspirations that we have received from those that have served in the past and who will serve in the future.

May we so live that when we shall come to the end of our journey, we shall receive that unmerited word, that unmerited jewel which Thou has promised to all of the faithful, not just because of our goodness, but through the goodness and mercy of Thy Great and Holy Name, in which we pray. Amen.

Commander **Cardosi**. Sergeant of the Color Guard, please retire the Colors.

[Retirement of the Colors.]

Commander **Cardosi**. Let's have a big hand for the Department of Arizona Color Guard. [Applause.]

Ladies and gentlemen, the 69th National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans is now adjourned.

[Whereupon, the meeting adjourned at 11:10 o'clock a.m., August 2, 1990.]

PROCEEDINGS

of the

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS AUXILIARY

1990 National Convention

Anaheim Hilton Hotel

Anaheim, CA

July 30–August 2, 1990

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE 69th NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS AUXILIARY, HELD AT ANAHEIM, CA

MONDAY MORNING SESSION

July 30–August 2, 1990

The 1990 National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary convened in the Pacific Ballroom of the Anaheim Hilton Hotel, Anaheim, California, Monday morning, July 30, 1990.

[Dignitaries and National Officers were introduced by Adjutant Maria Tedrow and escorted to the platform. Department Colors were posted.]

Adjutant MARIA TEDROW. We will now have the prayer by National Chaplain Margaret Hass.

Chaplain MARGARET HASS. Our Father which art in heaven, we thank You for our many blessings. We ask Thee to guide, direct, and protect us as we assemble here for our National Convention.

We ask blessings on those who are in leadership that they may have health and strength to face all the challenges with wisdom and understanding. We pray for peace throughout the world that we may go forward with renewed determination in making the world a better place for all mankind.

May Thy spirit be with each of us. We ask this humbly in Thy Holy Name, Amen.

Adjutant TEDROW. The Pledge of Allegiance will be led by National Americanism Chairman Bonita Newell.

Third Junior Vice-Commander BONITA NEWELL. Please free your hands, stand at attention, and repeat with me the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag.

[Pledge of Allegiance was recited.]

Adjutant TEDROW. Chris Williams will now sing and play the National Anthem, accompanied by recorded music.

[The National Anthem was sung, followed by posting of National Colors and dismissal of National and Department color bearers.]

Adjutant TEDROW. Officers, would you please be seated?

Pursuant to the provisions of Articles I and II of the Bylaws of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary and by the authority of the National Executive Committee, I, Maria M. Tedrow, National Adjutant, hereby pronounce and declare that the 68th National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary be convened in Anaheim, California.

Consideration and disposition of business brought before this convention shall be conducted in accordance with the National Constitution and Bylaws and the Ritual of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary as most recently amended. To all present, take due notice thereof and govern yourselves accordingly.

At this time it gives me great pleasure to introduce a lady who has served as National Auxiliary Commander for this year and has served us all well. We can be very proud of the star from North Carolina. She has done a beautiful job in everything she has undertaken, and we are truly proud of Shelia C. Allred, National Auxiliary Commander.

Shelia. [Applause.]

Commander **SHELIA C. ALLRED**. Thank y'all. How are y'all doing? Good morning. Let me tell you you're a good-looking group of ladies out there. I am so pleased to be here with you.

You know, I'm very proud of the lady that sang the National Anthem. She is a member of my Unit 27 in Concord. She sings it the way it's supposed to be sung. Don't you think so? [Applause.]

And I think that the color bearers, banner bearers, and pages did an outstanding job. They put a lot of hard work in on this. It was a little different but I think they did quite well. And, ladies, I do thank you and I do appreciate it.

I want to welcome you to the 69th National Convention of the DAV and Auxiliary.

If this is your first time attending a DAV and Auxiliary National Convention would you please stand up? All right! Great! [Applause.] We truly hope that you will meet new friends here, learn a lot about our organization, and enjoy yourself. And I want to thank you for coming.

To you that have attended before, I want to thank you for being with us once again. Your continued support by attending this convention is very, very vital to our organization.

To you officers, to the delegates, to the Past National Commanders and the alternates assembled here today, this is your convention. You are an active part of what is about to take place. You will be part of the history of our organization.

You know, this is such a beautiful place to have a National Convention—sunny California. And it really has been sunny. Our convention chairman and the members of California have worked very, very hard to make this the most enjoyable convention ever. Let's don't hesitate to show our appreciation to them every chance that you get.

Now at this time I would like to introduce to you the lady that's headed up all this hard work, and like I said she's doing a beautiful job, our convention chairman, Bea Vieira. [Applause.]

Ms. **BEA VIEIRA**. Good morning. I want to welcome you all to California. Commander Shelia, our National Officers, Past National Commanders, you all look so pretty, and all the guests and members: Thank you for coming to California. I'm glad you're here in Southern California, but Northern California would have been sunny too.

I hope you enjoy your convention. If there is anything I can help you with—don't look for me, I'm going to be gone! They asked me when I registered what state I was from. And believe me, at times I was in the state of confusion!

I hope you have an enjoyable convention. I know with Commander Shelia we've had a beautiful time with her when she's been in California. And we hope to make your stay welcome. There's a lot of things to be seen and done here. I hope though you will attend the convention. They have left enough time for you to take in our sights and other activities, but remember we're here for the convention.

And, Shelia, the gifts that are at the head table are from our department commander, Anna Dougherty, to make you feel welcome. And I believe all the ladies from California and all the members will try and make your convention here in our state outstanding. [Applause.]

Commander ALLRED. Now it is my pleasure to be able to introduce a very special group of ladies, ladies that have been very dedicated to the organization. They love this organization, their hearts have been with this organization ever since and before their term of office and they're still with us guiding us and working with us and going side by side with us.

At this time I would like to introduce to you our elite Past National Commanders. And if they would please stand and remain standing to the end of the introductions.

Catherine Early, Texas. [Applause.]

Lucille McCarthy, Florida. [Applause.]

Mildred Taylor, California. [Applause.]

Pauline Wright, Colorado. [Applause.]

Helen Davis, Georgia. [Applause.]

Dorothy Van Hoy, Missouri. [Applause.]

Thelma Williamson, Virginia. [Applause.]

Marjorie Vincent, California. [Applause.]

Florence Valgardson, Utah. [Applause.]

Maurine Pederson, Missouri. [Applause.]

Maria Tedrow, Pennsylvania. [Applause.]

Betty Hall, Texas. [Applause.]

Eva Rodgers, Colorado. [Applause.]

Sally Wilton, Arizona. [Applause.]

Loneita Shoemaker, Arkansas. [Applause.]

Katherine Pearson, Minnesota. [Applause.]

Rose Schilpp, junior past, Missouri. [Applause.]

And of course we can never forget our Past National Adjutant L. Kit Seal. [Applause.]

Ladies, if you will, and I would like to ask everyone in the assembly to please rise with me, we have this year lost a Past National Commander, Freida Frances Jones, and would you please bow your head for just a moment of silence in memory of Freida Frances Jones.

[Moment of silence.]

Commander ALLRED. Thank you, ladies.

Thank you so much. You may be seated. Very beautiful group of women.

Now at this time I would like to introduce to you the representative from this elite group, Past National Commander Marjorie Vincent. [Applause.]

Ms. **Marjorie Vincent**. Good morning. Top of the morning to you. National Commander Shelia, National Officers and Chairmen, Past National Commanders, members and guests:

Speaking as chairman for the Past National Commanders' group it's with pleasure that we welcome you to the 68th National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary.

I was going to ask how many were attending for the first time but Shelia beat me to it. So anyway, to those of you who are attending for the first time as well as those who are old hands at this convention business we hope that your stay here is enjoyable and that you find a great amount of information and interest in our Auxiliary programs. Please take it back home with you and share it with your Auxiliary.

May I ask for our PNCs to stand and turnaround and face the audience, please, and that includes our Past National Adjutant, L. Kit Seal, who we would never have gotten along this far without.

Ladies, I would like for you to look these ladies over, imprint in your mind who they are, and whenever you have a question, whenever you have a problem—of course there are various ways to handle it, but these ladies with their vast knowledge and experience will be glad to talk with you any time.

Ladies, you may be seated. And thank you. [Applause.]

Shelia, the Past National Commanders' group extends their best wishes to you and the assembly. We wish you a joyous and fruitful convention and hope that all of our expectations are pleasantly fulfilled.

I'd like to leave you with this thought: The six most important words in the English language are "I admit I made a mistake." The five most important words in the English language are "You did a good job." The four most important words in the English language are "What is your opinion?" The three most important words are "If you please." The two most important words are "Thank you." The one most important word is "We." The least important word is "I."

Ladies, I thank you very much. Shelia, thank you. [Applause.]

Commander **Allred**. Thank you, Marjorie. Those are also beautiful words to live by.

The first order of business is the adoption of the National Convention Rules. Printed copies of the Convention Rules have been furnished to all registered delegates. The Chair will now entertain a motion for adoption of these rules.

Senior Vice-Commander **Myrtice Vinson**. Madam Commander, I move that we adopt the rules of the convention.

Commander **Allred**. The motion has been made by Senior Vice-Commander Myrtice Vinson to adopt the rules of the convention. Does the motion have a second? Kit Seal Feighner seconded the motion. Is there any discussion? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion is carried.

We will now have a preliminary report of the Credentials Committee by Vicki Oneal, the credentials chairman.

Ms. **Vicki Oneal**. Madam National Commander, National Officers, delegates and guests:

Before I start my report I did have a little message here to refer. The following units need to contact the Auxiliary Headquarters Office in the Coronado Room:

Arizona 11, California 2, California 17, California 23, California 40, California 46, California 118, Connecticut 15, Department of Delaware, Department of D. C., Florida 22, Kansas 16, Massachusetts 44, Michigan 118, Missouri 62, Department of Nebraska, New Jersey 49, Pennsylvania 77, Department of Rhode Island, Washington 1, Hawaii 1.

And will the following two individuals—and please forgive me if I mispronounce your name—also go to this room: Ardis Pather of Iowa 59, Kathleen Bingham, Maryland 1.

Now to get on with the registration. Total units registered was 330, total departments registered 42, which brought a total of 372. Delegates registered 704, alternates registered 41, guests 66, which brings a total of 811. Total unit votes 2,221, total department votes 42, National Officers and NECs 26, PNCs 12, which is a grand total of votes of 2,301. And this is as of July 29th. Thank you.

Commander ALLRED. Thank you, Vicki. We have a couple of announcements before we go into our officers' reports.

Some were asking about tickets to the Southern Caucus Breakfast. We do have tickets available. Helen Hogan will be in the back of the room. If you need tickets please go back and see Helen. She does have to turn the account for the number in I think around 11:00 o'clock.

Also we've had some complaints about smoking and nonsmoking. And I don't see why—if you would want to smoke a cigarette there's a whole section over here that you can step over there to smoke a cigarette.

We will now go into the officers' reports. National Chaplain Margaret Hass.

Chaplain HASS. National Commander Shelia, National Officers, Past National Officers, National Chairmen, National Executive Committeewomen, delegates and guests:

It has been a great honor serving as National Chaplain for the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary.

As National Chaplain each month you receive from National Headquarters a list of our deceased. There is a time for everything under heaven, even a time for parting. God has made everything, and though we are all different we are yet alike. What matters most of course is that we are all significant.

These departed members cared enough to belong to our Auxiliary and they and their work with our programs over the past years have helped to make our Auxiliary what it is today and it is only fitting we pay homage to each of them with a card sent to their unit from the Auxiliary by the National Chaplain expressing our sympathy for their and our loss.

There were 1,096 reported deceased members and I sent out 985 cards to their units. State member at large and NOMADS, National members at large do not have a unit to send a sympathy card to in their honor. My "Taps" bulletin was sent each month allowing you to know of our great loss of membership to death. When requested I was happy to send personal sympathy and "get well" cards to Auxiliary members and their families.

I appreciated and treasured the gifts, poems, pictures and personal letters I received as your Chaplain.

During the year I attended Women's National Conference in Cincinnati and I had a very memorable trip to Washington, D. C. to listen to the Disabled American Veterans present its annual legislative goals to Congress and I enjoyed being with the other members of our organization who were there also for this excellent presentation.

I attended the conference and the department convention in my state. National Commander Shelia was the National representative to North Dakota's convention and she endeared herself to all of us there by her "in the know and on the go" spirit and her enthusiasm for our veteran and his family.

I was in Minneapolis, Minnesota for our 14th District meeting and in Fairmont, Minnesota for the testimonial dinner for their department commander. I was invited and privileged to speak on "What is a Veteran?" to the employees of the Social Security office in Minot, North Dakota. And I was invited and was able to be with the Kingman, Arizona unit for their department officer visitation and unit installation.

It has been a wonderful experience to serve God and this organization in the position of your Chaplain. Thanks to each of you for this opportunity and God bless you. [Applause.]

Commander ALLRED. Well, I'll tell you, in traveling, Margaret, I heard a lot of comments about the "Taps" that you sent out. They were very good. I definitely think that our Chaplain was an officer that was "in the know and on the go," don't you? [Applause.]

Our next National Officer report will be given by National Fourth Junior Vice-Commander Barbara Hicks.

Fourth Junior Vice-Commander BARBARA HICKS. Good morning. National Commander Shelia, National Officers, Chairmen, Executive Committeewomen, Past National Commanders, delegates, members and guests assembled in Anaheim for our National Convention:

I would like to combine my Community Service report and my personal report. Serving as your National Fourth Junior Vice-Commander gave me the opportunity to serve as your Community Service Chairman.

The work that is detailed on the back of our Community Service reports is a fraction of the work our members actually donate to the communities and the areas in which they live. You should all feel very proud.

I wish I had the time to go into detail by sharing with you some of the different ways the units participate in their communities but the list goes on and on and on. Here are the totals from the reports I received:

I received 1,019 reports. Total miles traveled 2,974,347. Volunteer hours 1,720,754. Donation by unit checks $333,475.12. Value of all donations $2,377,585.76. There were seven departments I did not receive any reports from.

A special thanks to all the departments that took the time to put their reports in numerical order. It certainly helps when you receive reports so many at a time.

I would like to applaud each of you for the hours of service in helping others. Where other than our wonderful United States of America could this be done? As Lee Greenwood would say, "God bless the U.S.A." As I totaled these reports my heart filled with pride just to think how many lives were touched by the hours and dollars so unselfishly given by our members.

Last year in Vegas I had the honor of being elected as your Fourth Junior Vice-Commander. It's hard to put into words, my feelings for the rest of that day were very mixed with tears and happiness. Mary Kabler gave my seconding speech and Maxine Thomas leaned over and gave me a hug and said, "Honey, you can do this. You will make us all very proud." I hope I have. NEC Annie Randolph escorted me up the aisle to be installed.

It seems like only yesterday I was on my way home from Las Vegas with a whole year ahead of me. Now it's coming to a close. My, how time flies. But what a beautiful year with many new experiences, cherished memories and friends.

In Cincinnati the end of September at our National Fall Conference I presented the Community Service program showing different ways we can serve our communities in each phase of our Community Service program. Thanks to everyone who helped by taking part in the skit.

In October I was representative at the Ohio Fall Conference. This being my own department, I felt on home turf. Commander Florence McGovern had a very constructive workshop and all in attendance had new ideas to take back to their units. Virginia Ward was a very gracious hostess. I would like to thank all of the Ohio gals for their love and support.

In March Maxine Thomas and I traveled to Charlotte, North Carolina for Commander Shelia's testimonial dinner. It was great fun filled with a weekend honoring a very beautiful lady.

My first convention as National representative was the Department of Minnesota. I was met at the airport in Rochester by Convention Chairwoman Sharon Kramer. Since my flight was late we only had time for a delightful mini tour of Rochester. I think the Mayo Clinic covers half the town.

It was nice to see Past National Commander Katherine Pearson, 4th District NEC Shirley Larson and Alternate NEC Pinky Day. Commander Ardis Peter conducted a very interesting and informative convention. It was my pleasure to install the new 1990–91 officers for Commander Hulda Olson.

It was nice meeting Sophie Beutler—pardon me if that's pronounced wrong—the newly elected department commander from North Dakota, who drove over for the convention.

In happenings at Headquarters several months ago we were told about a little girl, Kathy Stratford, who was at the Mayo Clinic. Hulda called to see if we could visit her, but at that time she was home in North Dakota. Several weeks later I received a note from her mother reporting that Kathy is doing better and that her treatments are to be finished in July. Even though I missed seeing her it was nice to know she was able to be home with her family.

June rolled around fast and I was off to Huntington, West Virginia. I was met at the airport by Norma Thompson, Unit #2 commander. What a lovely weekend I had. They know how to show you a great time also.

Commander Rosilyn Skidmore did a great job conducting her convention. It was again my pleasure to install the newly elected '90–91 officers for Waneita Fortney. Louise Huff took me on a tour of Huntington. It's a beautiful town. Thank you, ladies. I missed seeing NEC Annie Randolph as she was unable to be with us.

My own department convention in Ohio was two weeks later. It was nice having our NEC, Virginia Gleason, as our National representative. She was a very busy lady, as she was also our department chaplain. Virginia held a beautiful memorial service and it was my honor to help her by placing a flower in memory of our past department commander, Pia Ann Kovach.

Our alternate NEC, Mary Beth Schulze, is also a very busy lady. She serves as department treasurer and is also a Past National Commander. Our convention adjutant this year was Judy Hezlep, whom you all know better as our National Assistant Adjutant. My hat goes off to all of them for a job well done.

During the past year I have served as Americanism chairwoman and acting chaplain for my own unit. I have attended all but one of my meetings, as I do drive 61 miles each way. Thanks to Commander Nellie for asking me to install our unit 1990–91 officers.

The last week of June is Richmond, Indiana's Rose Festival. This is where my son lives. I drove over for a very special part of this year's festival, the Vietnam Moving Wall Display. It is an exact replica of the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C. except being half the size. I was there for their closing ceremony.

As I stood under an umbrella listening to a special tribute to the veterans from Wayne County who gave their lives, the sun appeared and there was a faint rainbow in the sky. What a tribute. As 2,400 red, white and blue balloons were released at this time, there wasn't a dry eye in the place, including my own.

Items that were left on the Wall included flags, flowers, poems, pictures, and even a can of beer. These were to be placed in the County Historical Museum.

It was estimated that over 60,000 people visited the Wall during its six-day display. It was being torn down and moved to Concord, New Hampshire and then on to Guam. There are no words that can express my feelings of mixed emotion and pride to be a small part of this tribute to our veterans.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Maria, Judy, and all of the National Staff. They were always ready to assist me in any and every way when I asked for help. With their help I was able to be "in the know and on the go."

To the departments I visited, it was my honor to be your representative. Your hospitality, love and gifts I will long remember, but your friendships new and old I will cherish forever.

Commander Shelia, it has been indeed an honor to serve with you and the other National Officers this year. To each of you present today my sincere "thank you" for the confidence you placed in me by allowing me to serve as your Fourth National Junior Vice-Commander. Thank you. [Applause.]

Commander ALLRED. Thank you, Barbara. You've done a great job; a good report. And there is another National Officer that is "in the know and on the go."

Can you say that? "In the know and on the go." Right. I want you to come alive. Would you like for me to give you a "wake up" call out there? Okay. We're going to move right along for our National Third Junior Vice-Commander, Bonita Newell.

Third Junior Vice-Commander NEWELL. Thank you so much. First I would like to say that I'm sure you know by now talking to me that I'm most happy to be with you at this convention, and sorry I had to miss the last one. Good to see you all.

National Officers, National Commander, Past National Commanders, department officers, members of this congregation for the 68th Annual Convention, delegates and guests:

The Americanism reports reveal a great pride within the membership, proving they are thankful to be an American and living in the United States of America. They show the importance of displaying the Flag and observing important holidays; also knowing the necessity of participating in parades and seldom forgetting their fallen comrades.

Americanism programs seem to decline sometimes, but hopefully the future will show an increased activity within our units in the coming year. I did not receive reports from six states, and three states mailed reports individually that did not arrive in time to be tabulated.

My activities this year included: The Fall Conference held in Cincinnati. I was representative in Cheyenne, Wyoming, the 17th District meeting held in November of 1989. I was in Jefferson City, Missouri in June attending their department convention. And I enjoyed being your National representative.

Also attending the meetings were three Past National Commanders in the Auxiliary and one Past National Commander for the chapter. It was a contest, because I had a lot of very, very informative people and they were nice and very brilliant and I hope I lived up to the expectations of that trip. But I certainly enjoyed their attentive friendship and hospitality.

I also attended the convention held in Milford, Delaware. They certainly are an active bunch of ladies. And both states take great pride in their surroundings and I enjoyed the extensive tours that were offered to me from the beaches to the open plains. And I notice that everyone in the states that I have traveled in take such great pride in being an American and also in their surroundings.

The following figures tell the story of Americanism activity for 1989–1990:

The total reports received were 1,005. Total members that were urged to vote, 869. Total members assisting someone to become a U. S. citizen, 201. Total number of programs sponsored during the "Know Your America" Week, 263.

Total number of Americanism programs sponsored by units, 981. Total number of essay contests sponsored by units, 113. Total number of pieces of literature distributed, 36,393. Total number of Flags presented by the units, 22,906. Total number of flagpoles presented by units, 221. Total cost of Flags and/or flagpoles, $14,304.

Total amount units donated to Freedoms Foundation, $9,007.50. Total number of parades units participated in, 1,440. Total number of Americanism reports read at unit meetings, 4,011. Total number of units supporting the MIA/POW program, 387. Total number of units observing holidays and displaying the Flag when possible, 832.

Total number of Americanism programs reported, 944. As you can see, those are going down. And I think within the two years that I've had the Americanism chairmanship that this is following a trend and I just know that we'll get back with our Americanism programs, because they're most important to inform the public that we do experience Americanism in our organization, and also that we have a definite interest in it.

At this point I just wish to thank all members that participated in the Americanism programs throughout this past year, and your reports were appreciated. Thank you very much, Commander. [Applause.]

Commander ALLRED. Thank you, Bonnie. And I'm sure pride in America, I'm sure you made sure that it is foremost in everybody's mind everywhere you go, because you certainly show it.

And we have another officer that is "in the know and on the go." Now you're getting it! Okay.

Next is our National Second Junior Vice-Commander, Barbara Maldet.

Second Junior Vice-Commander BARBARA MALDET. National Commander Shelia, National Officers, Past National Commanders, members and guests: As National Second Junior Vice-Commander I serve as National Legislative Chairman. This is an interesting and challenging position, especially when so many cuts are being made to our veterans' benefits and the VA health care system.

This chairmanship is different in that we take our legislative direction and leadership from our parent organization. The DAV magazine is a source of legislative information and direction for each Auxiliary member and unit.

I received a total of 974 legislative reports from the units throughout the country. I tallied all of the legislative contacts, which are federal, state and local contacts, and the total reported is 28,191.

I know that more letters, phone calls and personal contacts were made by Auxiliary members than that total because the members of Congress are aware of the DAV Auxiliary and our commitment to our nation's veterans.

Some of the topics reported were: VA budget cuts, increase in COLA and DIC benefits, Flag burning, state veterans' cemeteries, tax exemption and handicap parking.

During this past year I submitted five bulletins to be sent to the units. And I've filed a more detailed report with National Headquarters.

The year I served as National Fourth Junior Vice-Commander was filled with many new experiences. This past year as National Second Junior Vice-Commander I have had a year filled with many learning experiences representing you as a National Auxiliary officer. Each year although different has been equally enriching to my life.

In September I attended the Fall Conference in Grayling, Michigan. It was pleasant to renew old friendships that I had made the previous year. Commander Sue McAnany conducted an informative conference and the chairman presented a program.

It was great to be with NEC Lucille Griffin and Alternate NEC Leona Sharp. I also had the chance to meet and get to know National Deputy VAVS Helen Parys. She was great.

The ladies in Michigan had a tea for me with a special entertainment about Civil War history. They couldn't have picked a better subject.

Later that month I presented the National Legislative program at the Fall Conference in Cincinnati, Ohio with the help of Auxiliary members from Pennsylvania, Michigan, Louisiana, Maryland, Kentucky, Virginia, and President Loneita Shoemaker. And it was great.

But, you know, everybody that goes to the National Fall Conference says it's such a learning experience. And it is. But it is also a learning experience for the chairmen who present the programs. And it was one for me as I studied the government and how it works.

October is the month for our state committee meeting in Pennsylvania and I was asked to present my legislative program for this meeting also. It was a great privilege for me to be able to do this for the ladies of my home state.

During the winter months I conducted a letter-writing campaign to the senators and representatives of committees considering important legislation concerning veterans' benefits.

In February I attended DAV National Commander Vernon Cardosi's presentation before the Joint Senate and House Veterans Affairs Committee. Commander Cardosi did an excellent job and brought to light the secret committee meetings being held within the Department of Veterans Affairs to cut veterans' benefits.

While in Washington, D. C. I was invited to an Annual Legislative Luncheon given by the DAV and Auxiliary, Department of New Jersey. It was interesting to meet and talk legislative goals with these dedicated members. After returning home I conducted another letter-writing campaign.

As I sought to become better informed on veterans' benefits I found a book entitled "The Wages of War." After I completed reading it for the first time I sat in utter frustration as I realized that America's veterans after each war are soon forgotten. I also became aware of just how important the DAV and the DAV Auxiliary are in protecting veterans and their families and the promises made to them by a government going to war. If you get a chance, read this book. It will give you a new vision.

In April my husband and I were invited to attend a joint chapter and unit installation at Mountaintop 29 in Oakland, Maryland. This chapter and unit already have their vision, and it is exemplified in the help and assistance they give to the veterans and their families and to the members of their community. My thanks go to Hazel and Willie Meyers for their invitation and for their hospitality.

The beginning of May was my first convention assignment, and I flew to Las Vegas, Nevada.

Commander Joanne Molen conducted an excellent convention, assisted by Adjutant Frances Fagen. Joanne drove me to the state veterans' cemetery that the DAV and Auxiliary have worked so hard to bring into existence.

The Auxiliary units in the Las Vegas area are developing a group called "Women Helping Women." This group will meet once a month on a Saturday morning to talk about and help one another with problems that they encounter daily living with a disabled person. Wives and widows of veterans of all wars want to participate in this help group and they have an excellent information to share. I was interested in this. And they are meeting and it was really a step in the right direction when we are helping one another.

I was given the opportunity to install the newly elected officers in Nevada.

The following weekend found me in Brunswick, Maine for their convention. It was an interesting and informative convention that was conducted by Commander Norma Tool with the most able assistance of Adjutant Claire Nadeau. I also had the chance to be with NEC Anne Young and I was given the privilege of installing the newly elected officers with Anne acting as the conductress.

I again participated in Memorial Day activities in Gettysburg, which is most inspiring.

The first weekend of June I flew to Nashville, where I was met by Commander Barbara Houser. Barbara, with the able assistance of Virginia Reinagel, ran a productive convention. I was able to be with good friend NEC Esther Dupre and I had the privilege of installing their newly elected officers with Esther acting as conductress. The ladies of Tennessee treated me with kind hospitality.

I flew into El Paso, Texas and Commander Vivian Brown met me at the airport and took me to the hotel. It was an honor to be with Past National Commander Catherine Early and I was sorry that Past National Commander Betty Hall and National Junior Activities Chairman Ruthie Nowlin could not attend.

Commander Vivian and the efficient adjutant, Dovie Hawkins, conducted an excellent convention. Everyone was most impressed with Assistant Adjutant Patty Rapisand, who gave an accurate credential report daily. It was great to be with Alternate NEC Katie Critz. And all the ladies in Texas were so very kind and gracious to me, and I really appreciate their hospitality.

I was home for a week before the Department of Pennsylvania's convention started. I work for the DAV Department of Pennsylvania so this convention is extremely busy. It was a great honor to have National Commander Shelia as our representative. She is truly an excellent representative of this organization.

The next week I was busy working at department headquarters and I was most surprised to see Jim and Shelia Allred walk into the office. It was great to be able to spend a few hours talking with them.

I serve as adjutant for my unit and I have attended all the unit meetings when I've been in town. I've worked at the unit spaghetti dinners. And at Christmas again this year we had a party at a local nursing home. We expected 50 residents and there were a hundred residents there. Both John and our sons Matthew and

Mark helped the unit with this party. Matthew gave out food and Mark played his guitar and sang. And I think it was one of the best nights of the holiday season that we had.

I attended meetings, I spoke at banquets when I was asked, I helped my unit and department whenever possible.

As I was traveling, one of the Auxiliary members in a smaller state that I visited said, "Conventions in small states must be so different than conventions in large states."

And I thought about it for a little while, and I told her, "There's really no difference. Because in each state I get the chance to meet great ladies of the Auxiliary, and that makes it all the same."

I study and I prepare before I attend conventions. I try to have the information ready so that I can answer questions when asked, but invariably someone will ask me a question that I'm just not sure about. And I want to tell you what a great resource that I as a National Officer have in National Adjutant Maria Tedrow and National Assistant Adjutant Judy Hezlep and the National Staff.

It is wonderful to be able to call them and discuss something with them and then be able to give that help to you. Because when they help me, then I can in turn help you. They do an excellent job and I want to thank them very much for the help all year.

This year, just as last year, I'm so impressed by the members of this Auxiliary. In each state I visit I am overwhelmed by the ladies I meet. The work you do, the help you give to the veterans and to each other is truly amazing.

I'm reminded of a statement made by Retired Rear Admiral Grace Hopper, who is a genius in the computer field. She said, "We manage things, we lead people."

As I have traveled this past year I have met very few managers but I have met many leaders in the Auxiliary. And as I look around this audience I see the leaders in the DAV Auxiliary, and I am most proud of the privilege of being a National Officer in this organization. Thank you. [Applause.]

Commander ALLRED. Thank you, Barbara. Barbara loaned me the book "Wages of War" but I haven't had a chance to read it. But I think after I get home from this convention I may have a little more time. That was a very nice report. And there we have another National Officer that is "in the know and on the go." Great!

We do at this time have a very distinguished guest with us that would like to come before you ladies. Would the National Sergeant at Arms please bring forward to the dais our National Chaplain of the DAV, Reverend Wilkie.

DAV Chaplain OSCAR I. WILKIE. Thank you, Commander Allred and all of the platform distinguished people and all of my fellow Auxiliary guests and members. I'm so glad to bring you greetings from Commander Cardosi this morning, who has asked me to say to you that last night he wrote on the blackboard 300 times "Wind Under My Wings."

It is good to come and to bring you greetings and thank you for your gracious reception. You have not been at all like the one that I once remember that went to a strange town, a traveling salesman, as it were, and he rented a motel room, hotel, a room like we have.

He went out on a hot day and was trying to sell his wares, had no luck. So then he returned to the room, thought he would lie down and watch a little TV, and there's no TV in the room. He went over to the desk to the telephone to call and complain about that thing, and there was no telephone in the room. So he decided to go downstairs and talk to the desk clerk.

So he went downstairs, talked to the desk clerk, said, "There's no TV in my room."

And he said, "We don't believe in no TV here."

He said, "Well, there's no phone in my room?"

"We don't believe in no phones here either."

He said, "Well, I guess it would be all right if I went over and read the paper and had a smoke."

"We don't believe in no tobacco here either."

"Well, can you tell me if there is a bar?"

"We don't believe in no alcohol here either."

He said, "Well, what in the world do you all believe in?"

He said, "We don't believe in nothing but the second coming of Jesus."

The salesman said, "If He ever stayed here, he ain't a'coming back." [Applause.]

You have not at all treated me that way, and I deeply appreciate it.

I bring you greetings, as I said, and I deeply appreciate the associations and the opportunity that I've had this year to work with Commander Allred and with all of you. It's been my rookie year, as all of you may well know, and I have had quite an education.

I knew that there were problems, but I didn't know how many. And I was a bit frustrated and I guess I could say a bit fearful about the future of the rights of veterans and their families. But since I've been associated with those who are looking out for these affairs I no longer have fear, I have frustrations.

Red tape gets in the way—and as our veteran said to us yesterday, "Read my lips. Charity begins at home." And I think that was a great statement. [Applause.]

If you will allow me, I hope that it does not show chauvinism or any of that kind of thing, but there is a particular bit of rhetoric that a long time ago came to my mind and I committed to memory, and in closing my greeting to you I would like to share this with you to pay tribute to all of you who have worked so hard to make this organization, DAV and Auxiliary, the force, the power, and the symbol of hope that it is to so many hundreds and thousands of our comrades around the world.

I'm reminded that when the Almighty Creator had made everything there was to be made, as His last and best creation He created woman. She was so lovely and so winsome that what before had seemed to Him most fair now seemed but mean. In ministry so soft and tender, in loyalty so kind and true, she has ever fulfilled her mission and helped to mend man's faults and mold him into virtue.

And as we're gathered here on this occasion of this convention were I to draw for you a picture of love divine it would not be that of a stately angel with a form that is filled with grace but a bent and toil-worn woman with a grave and tender face.

No golden rings would enfold her nor rosy her cheek nor fair. But the face of an angel of pity, framed in snow-white hair. Her hands are not white and slender. They're rough with work and woe from bearing others' burdens and soothing tears that flow.

No halo of light surrounds her and no wondrous power she has. Ah, but many and many a blessing is spoken along her path. Others may think they're angels with white-robed forms of grace. But my sweet angel of pity has my mother's careworn face. [Applause.]

Why should I endeavor to convey to you an ideal which you already have enshrined within your heart? For deep down, safely locked within this secret chamber you keep that cherished ideal sacred and holy. It is your mother.

It was she alone, all alone, that went down into the Valley of the Shadow of Death and received your trembling soul at the Gates of Life. It was she who first pillowed your baby head in the elbow of her bended arm. It was she who first taught your lisping tongue to frame that God-given prayer "Our Father which art in heaven and which all race and sex and kind may join."

And there is no person so vile or so base or so low but who in their sin-stained soul keeps pure and apart a little place for their mother's memory. And when in the silent watches of the night our minds turn back to pure and happy childhood hours, we remember that mother and we are drawn closer to God.

Ladies, I salute you one and all. Keep up the good work. God bless you. [Applause.]

Commander ALLRED. I want to once again thank Reverend Wilkie for coming to us. He is such an eloquent speaker. Ladies, would you say that our Chaplain is "in the know and on the go"? Thank you, Chaplain Wilkie. He is really great.

We will continue with our reports. I'll call for our National First Junior Vice-Commander, Claudia Roy.

First Junior Vice-Commander CLAUDIA ROY. Good morning, everyone. National Commander Shelia, National Officers, Executive Committeewomen, Chairmen, Past National Commanders, delegates, members and guests here assembled for the 1990 National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary:

On August 3, 1989 I was elected National First Junior Vice-Commander. With this office I assumed the duties of National Membership Chairman.

The good news was the National quota was exceeded; the bad news was only five departments reached quota. We did grow. Our final figures for membership for June 30, 1990 were 236,169. That brought membership to better than 20,000 over quota.

Much of the credit for these figures goes to National Adjutant Maria and the incentive programs through Headquarters; also to the staff at Headquarters. They gave a supreme effort and I want to say "thank you" to them. And, ladies, let's give them all a big hand for assisting us with our membership. [Applause.]

When the Membership Awards are given there will be more facts and figures.

Another chapter in the book of my life has been completed. I'm sure this book will never be a best-seller, and it probably won't ever appear on any charts. But it's very special to me. I would like to share so much with you—the ups, the downs, the laughs, the cries, the work, the play—but in fairness to everyone I have tried to highlight my year as National First Junior Vice-Commander.

First was National Fall Conference. I enjoyed doing the membership program and had a lot of fun presenting it at the conference.

When I planned and wrote the program I thought of numbers, numbers of members. I decided on a National membership theme for the year, "Count the Members, the Members Count." I then went about constructing a DAV Auxiliary house. Each room in the house represented a program the Auxiliary is involved in. I laid membership as the foundation; without the membership we do not have the resources to satisfactorily carry out our other programs.

I would again like to say "thank you" to Vermont Past Department Commanders Beverly Cleveland, Nancy Dorey and Maxine Clark for being "Claudia's Construction Crew."

But I must be afraid that somewhere along the way there was a mistake in the construction, because our foundation did have some cracks in it this year. So let's work on that for whomever is elected to serve as the National Membership Chairman next year. Let's start today with membership for 1990–91.

In October I attended the Fall Conference of the 8th District in Montgomery, Alabama. This district is known as MALT—Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana and Tennessee. It was nice to see so many old friends and to make some new.

National Executive Committeewoman Esther Dupre had a very interesting and productive conference. I enjoyed the presentations that were given. It was nice to see Alternate NEC Marilyn Seemann and National Hospital Chairman Vernice Eunice. Thank you, Esther and Vernice, for all the hospitality.

Early in November I received a call from Adjutant Maria. Commander Shelia was ill and could not attend the 6th District Fall Conference, could I go? I said, "Let me see if I can get a flight, and I'd love to go." Within two hours I had made my arrangements.

Shelia, I was very sorry that you could not attend, but I was glad that I could fill in. I did not take your place, I only filled in. This is just one of the nice things about our "family," helping one another.

The 6th District is Virginia, West Virginia, Puerto Rico, Maryland and the District of Columbia. The conference was held in Williamsburg, Virginia. I was greeted at the airport by National Executive Committeewoman Annie Randolph and Conference Chairman Shirley Ervin. These two ladies had everything well in hand.

I enjoyed the activities and the hospitality. It was also nice to see Alternate NEC Elizabeth Juba. At the time of the conference Annie's husband was in the hospital, but she carried out her duties beautifully. That's dedication.

In February I was very pleased to attend the testimonial for DAV National Commander Vernon Cardosi. This was the first DAV testimonial for me. It was held in Massachusetts, just next door, so Jim and I drove. And we enjoyed it very much. It was good to see the members and Commander Shelia and Adjutant Maria. On Sunday there was a northeaster and we almost didn't get home. And I'm sure that you're going to hear more about that storm.

Also in February I was very proud to be present for Commander Cardosi's legislative presentation before the Joint Veterans Affairs

Committee in Washington, D. C. I attended several of the functions of the Commanders and Adjutants Association and visited with the Auxiliary Officers in attendance.

In March I attended the 10th District Conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan. I was greeted at the airport by NEC Lucille Griffin and Alternate Leona Sharp. We attended a dinner hosted by the local unit and then their local unit meeting. I enjoyed meeting the members and seeing the chapter home and was very impressed with all their work.

Part of the conference program was a legislative presentation. Mac Fleming and John Heilman did a little sparring. It was pretty lively, one of the best seminars that I have attended. Lucille is a very gracious lady and a great hostess. She had planned a very informative program with many presentations. Deputy VAVS Representative Helen Parys is also a member of this district and it was nice to see her again.

On to North Carolina for Commander Shelia's Testimonial. Wow, what a weekend, a true Tarheel celebration! I know that you're going to hear more about this event; I just want to say I was very happy to be a part of this special celebration to honor a special lady and a good friend.

In April I attended the 15th District Conference in Kansas City, Missouri. I was met at the airport by the local unit commander, Bonita Mitchell. I attended a dinner at the chapter home hosted by the local chapter and then the unit meeting. It was nice to meet the unit members. It is a large unit and a hardworking one. National Executive Committeewoman Virginia Alford had a well-planned conference, many activities, including a visit to the VA medical center and an interview on the local cable television channel. Time for work time for fun.

Also in attendance were Alternate NEC Rosemary Gallagher and Past National Commanders Dorothy Van Hoy, Maurine Pederson and Rose Marie Schilpp. I am always impressed with the fact that these PNCs continue to be dedicated members and a very important part of this organization.

Rose had a terrible case of laryngitis, and I told her she had to get her voice back and feel good as she was to be the representative at the Vermont convention the following week. She assured me she would be okay. Well, unfortunately, she was not okay and could not attend. I was asked to fill in and was happy I could do so. Rose, we really missed you and we do hope you will be able to visit us at another time. The members were disappointed not to have you, Rose, but certainly made me feel very welcome.

Commander Virginia Shambo and Adjutant Maxine Clark work well together and had a very good convention. Virginia was elected to a second term as commander and asked me to install officers, and I was very happy to do so.

On to Montana. Flying into Bozeman was quite an experience—down between the mountains! It was beautiful. I was met at the airport by Department Commander Katherine Murray and Convention Chairman Florence Geiger. Between these two ladies my every need was taken care of. And they were, of course, busy with the convention business. It was a very productive time. I was honored to install officers for 1990–91.

Next trip, New Mexico. I flew into Albuquerque and was greeted by Department Commander Angie Duran and Department Adjutant Becky Lovato and driven to Santa Fe. This gave me an opportunity to see some of our beautiful country. However, I also saw the other side, that of poverty and desolation. It is heart-wrenching.

On this trip I was honored to visit the DAV Vietnam Veterans National Memorial in Angel Fire. The drive there was beautiful and the monument is awesome. I hope each of you has the opportunity to visit it sometime. The convention was conducted with great efficiency by Angie and Becky and they were the very best of hostesses. I was asked to install officers for 1990–91 and I was very honored to do so.

On to Wisconsin. The convention was held in Brookfield, and I flew into Milwaukee. I was greeted by Noral Pahl and driven to the hotel. Commander Carol Lawrence was already very busy conducting the business of this department with a lot of zeal and knowledge. I was showered with hospitality by Nora, Carol, and Adjutant Barb between their duties as officers.

It was nice to see Past National Commander Betty Wimmer and have a little visit. Betty keeps involved also. She is department judge advocate. The department memorial service was very impressive and I was very honored to be asked to participate.

My next trip was to Indianapolis, Indiana. I was greeted at the airport by Convention Chairman Mary Patterson. What a ball of fire! She was busy every minute! Commander Maxine Archer conducted the business of this department without hesitation, with her daughter Tana Penland as department adjutant. See, a mother-and-daughter team; more dedication. I participated in their memorial service and I was very pleased to be asked. I also saw and visited with 13th District National Executive Committeewoman Virginia Merrifield.

My last assignment, last but not least, was Little Rock, Arkansas. I was met at the airport by Convention Chairman Franklin and VAVS Representative Eleanor Walkney. On my arrival at the hotel I was greeted by Commander Carolyn Cox and Past National Commander Department Adjutant Loneita Shoemaker, another active Past National Commander. National Executive Committeewoman District 21 Jan Archer is also very active in this department. Gosh, it was good to see all these old friends.

I was given a mini tour of Little Rock and saw some of the area that had been flooded and drove by the VA medical center. And that was thanks to two members, Sara and Pat.

Everywhere I went I was reminded how very special our members are, from the north to the south, from the east to the west. We share a common bond and work for a common goal. I am very proud to be a member and very proud of our members.

To all my friends, old or new, thank you for all the hospitality, the many courtesies, and the friendship that has been extended to me. Thank you for the cards, notes, pictures and gifts. Thank you for being you.

To Adjutant Maria, thank you for all your assistance over this past year. It's always nice to know that you're only a phone call away. And if anyone is interested in investing in something, a stock that's going to go up, buy in AT&T. They love us! Thanks also to Judy, Pat, and the entire staff at Headquarters. You're a super group of ladies.

Shelia, may the remainder of your convention be harmonious and productive. You're a very special lady and I have loved serving with you. To everyone, may your future be healthy, happy, and successful. [Applause.]

Commander **Allred**. Thank you, Claudia.

Now we will call on our National Senior Vice-Commander, Myrtice Vinson—these Past National Commanders are keeping me straight down here. That means we have a National First Junior Vice-Commander, Claudia Roy, that is "in the know and on the go." Thank you, ladies. Now, Myrtice.

Senior Vice-Commander **Myrtice Vinson**. Hey, y'all! You know, we were just sitting there talking a few minutes ago, the officers, and we said something like "You know, we have been so enthusiastic all year, and it sure is quiet today." We were just sort of wondering why. They haven't had their "wake up" call yet, the Commander says.

But you know, there's a little song we do with a group of young children back home that says "If you're happy and you know it, let it show." So we want it to show. [Applause.]

National Commander Shelia Allred, National Officers, National Executive Committeewomen, Past National Commanders, delegates and guests:

Last summer at our 67th National Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada you elected me as National Senior Vice-Commander of the greatest organization in the world, the DAV Auxiliary. It has been a pleasure for me to serve this office and I'm indeed grateful to each of you for the opportunity you have provided me.

I'll always cherish the honor of serving and the memories of this past year.

Serving as Senior Vice-Commander this year has been one what most people would call, especially if you're from Georgia, sort of laid-back. I realized suddenly that I did not have the responsibility of a chairmanship this year.

However, throughout the year I observed the officers and chairmen promote the programs of the Auxiliary, assuring that they kept the membership "in the know and on the go"—"on the go" as they were providing service to disabled veterans and their families.

I watched intently as National Commander Shelia carried us from the role of a junior Auxiliary member to the winds beneath her wings. Certainly we can all be very proud of these officers and chairmen. I congratulate each of them for the job they have done for us this year.

It has been a pleasure for me to represent the organization as National Senior Vice-Commander as I traveled across your land and my land.

First there was the Auxiliary Fall Conference in Cincinnati. There we observed each chairman as she presented the program realistically and enthusiastically.

Next came the 9th District meeting held in Macon, Georgia. There, our NEC, Elizabeth Colson, did a super job at the meeting. The meeting was interesting, informative, and at times downright hilarious. National Commander Shelia was in attendance and added much to the meeting. Thank you, Commander.

Then it was to North Carolina for our National Commander's Testimonial. What a beautiful affair for a beautiful person. I thoroughly enjoyed that weekend.

I was privileged to be asked to attend the National Finance Committee meeting in Cincinnati in April. It was very nice visiting with NEC Annie Randolph and NEC Betty Victorine on Sunday night and to have all of the committee members' company during the meeting on Monday. Shirley Larson presided over a productive meeting. Thanks to Maria for giving this committee lunch after the meeting. Thank you. Dinner on Sunday night also with Annie and Betty was very nice for me.

My first convention assignment was the Department of Arizona. Commander Shirley Kiziski did a fine job presiding over the convention. Convention Chairman Pat Egel was gracious to me. And it was a delight visiting with 18th District NEA Louise Ellis and Past National Commander Sally Wilton, as well as many wonderful members that I met and renewing the friendships of so many that I knew already. Before I left Arizona I even ate rattlesnake! And it was good, too!

Then on to Lake Charles, Louisiana for Louisiana's department convention. Commander Irene Deidre was a gracious commander. Audrey Markentel was really on her toes at all times as convention chairman attending to my every need. 8th District NEC Esther Dupre was busy as a bee. She was also serving as department adjutant.

It was such a delight being in Lake Charles. The convention was fun and I enjoyed meeting so many unit members.

The state convention in my own state of Georgia was held in June, early June, 1, 2, 3. Our department commander, Vicky Grier, presided over the convention and did a great job. Judy Davis was a gracious convention chairman. And there were junior members serving as pages throughout the convention.

It was very nice being with Past National Commander Helen Davis and 9th District NEC Elizabeth Colson as well as all the members of my own home state. Commander Vicky finally smiled when it was all over. Can you believe that?

At the close of the convention I had to rush to catch a plane for Cincinnati. It was time for the Educational Loan Fund Committee meeting. I thought I wasn't going to make it there. And when I got to Cincinnati I almost wished I had missed the flight. A storm had gone through the night before and it appeared that another one was on the way. But by the grace of God it passed us by.

The meeting on Monday was long. It took the committee all day to take care of the business. Educational Loan Fund Director Phyllis Greaney was really "in the know" as far as the students were concerned.

This was a great experience for me to be a part of this committee. Commander Shelia, Adjutant Maria, Assistant Adjutant Judy, and Past National Commander Rose were all there working like real champions. We had to in order to finish all in one day. We had lunch before leaving for the airport, thanks to Maria.

Then it was time for the Department of Kansas convention. The convention was held in Wichita. Commander Alice Pomeroy was well prepared and presided over a great convention. Convention Chairman Marcella Story looked after me as if I was a baby. It was great being with 15th District NEC Virginia Alford and meeting so many members from the State of Kansas.

DAV Membership Director was there. And we saw him yesterday really in action. He is a great, great guy. During the banquet we presented, you might say, a program. Rather than doing a prepared speech at the banquet, we did a skit; members of the organization were part of a skit playing the part of VA representatives, nurses, all types of volunteers.

It was really, really great. It has really given me an idea to pass on to other people. I thoroughly enjoyed that. And all of the members from Kansas really, really did. That was Membership Chairman Luttjohann.

My last convention assignment was the Department of Maryland. I flew into Baltimore, Washington International, was met by Department Commander Lucy Davis and her wonderful husband. Since the convention was held in Ocean City, I stayed the night at the home of the commander. The Davises made me feel as if I was in my own home. Thanks to you, Lucy.

The next morning it was a pleasurable drive to Ocean City, stopping to have lunch on the way. Commander Lucy was an efficient commander and the business of the convention was handled certainly with proficiency. 6th District NEC Annie Randolph was in attendance and it was good being with her, as well as Past National Commander Chris Maguire.

It was during this convention that I witnessed the true meaning of service to disabled veterans and their families. The members of this state department saw to it that one of their junior members had an opportunity to attend this National Convention. They not only opened their heart they also opened their pocketbooks. It really proved that there are no limits our members will do to assist the families of disabled veterans.

It was also nice to be in Maryland and to be in the company of Hazel Meyers, the recipient of the Past National Commanders' Award. Truly Hazel is very deserving. She's a gracious person. She's here now chaperoning this little girl that so much wanted to attend. I hope all of you get an opportunity to speak to Hazel.

It has been an honor for me serving with Commander Shelia and the other officers this year. I congratulate each on a job well done and I wish for each of them much success in all their undertakings. It has been such an honor for me to be a part of the team this year.

And I certainly want to say thanks to all of you, but special thanks to Maria, Judy and the office staff for all of your help this year. You have been most gracious to me. Thanks to all of you, and I love you very much. [Applause.]

Commander ALLRED. Thank you, Myrtice. You know, I really enjoy the fact that we bring our Senior Vice in for the Finance meeting and the Ed Loan meeting because it gives us a chance to see each other during the year, get caught up on how everything is going, and it's a learning experience for them for the next year.

And we did have a good time at the 9th District meeting, that was really great.

You had a very good report, and you've been an outstanding Senior Vice-Commander. And here is another National Officer that is "in the know and on the go." Very good.

Myrtice, would you please assume the Chair?

Senior Vice-Commander VINSON. Ladies, it is certainly my pleasure to present our National Commander, Shelia Allred, for the purpose of giving her report. [Applause.]

Commander ALLRED. Thank you, Myrtice. National Officers, National Chairmen, National Executive Committeewomen, Past National Commanders, National Staff, delegates, members and guests to the 69th National Convention:

Last August in Las Vegas when I was elected to the highest office of the greatest organization in the world no one could have made me realize what waited for me in the year to come. But I have realized what I have known all along: The DAV Auxiliary is the greatest organization on earth because of you, its members.

Your love, concern and dedication keeps the wheels rolling that puts this entire Auxiliary in motion. The friendships I have made, the work and love I have seen all across this great nation makes me very humble but very proud to belong to such an elite group of women.

In September it was an honor to attend as a guest the American ex-POW National Convention in Niagara Falls, New York. The convention was held in conjunction with the Canadian ex-POW National Convention.

It was a memorial event for Commander Cardosi and myself to march with the American ex-POWs to the middle of Rainbow Bridge where we met the Canadian ex-POWs and watch as they laid a plaque in the middle of the bridge in memory of all POWs and MIAs and then threw a wreath into the water below. I was also taken as a special guest to Canada to attend their memorial service prior to the march.

The DAV orientation in Washington, D.C. was a learning experience. Each key staff member of the DAV gave a rundown on their duties, programs, and what would be available to us.

The Auxiliary Fall Conference was a success. I want to compliment each officer, chairman and director that presented a program. I had many, many compliments and excellent feedback from the members as I traveled.

October, National Adjutant Maria Tedrow, National VAVS Representative Eleanor Walkney and her husband Bob, and Deputy VAVS Helen Parys attended the National Advisory Committee meeting in Portland, Oregon. If you've never attended one of these functions, please try to do so if it's ever convenient for you. It's amazing the new constructive ideas that come from all these workshops and meetings.

On Veterans' Day I was in Birmingham, Alabama at one of the largest Veterans' Day events that I have ever witnessed. An event such as this can stir up your patriotism for months on end.

In between these travels I attended fall conferences of states, midwinter conferences, made official visits, toured VA medical centers, soldiers' homes, met with Convention Chairman Bea Vieira and Cochairman Joan Turbeville.

I also visited troubled units to assist them in getting back to the basics of our organization. I do not intend to list every unit, every state, every commander by name. They are too numerous to mention. But please know that the time that we shared together was, is, and always will remain very, very dear to my heart.

Commander Cardosi's Testimonial was a great success and a beautiful tribute to a fantastic leader. It was in February at Cape Cod. And the weather held out beautifully until the day I left. I think mine and Maria's plane was the last one to take off before they closed the airport.

Pride and a feeling for not being scared to tell the truth is what I felt when I witnessed National Commander Vern's presentation to the Joint Senate and House Committee. In it, as you know, he uncovered the secret meetings that were taking place behind closed doors. That presentation had an impact that is still causing waves. The facts showed for themselves, and Commander Cardosi let Congress know exactly what was taking place.

My own testimonial was a time I will never forget. The pre-function "pig pickin" held by my own chapter and Unit 27 in Concord at the chapter home was a fun time. A lot of hard work went into this event and I want to thank each and every member of my unit and chapter for this activity.

The testimonial itself was beautiful, with the theme "You're the Wind Beneath Our Wings" sponsored by the Tarheel Celebration Committee. To Chairman Jane Troutman, Co-chairman Gloria Stanley, and Dot Whitehurst, our department commander, and to all the committee members, thank you from the bottom of my heart for such a beautiful memory.

Between the other official visits serving my capacity as National Commander, I attended the National District meetings, assisted with workshops, and met with directors of VA medical centers.

In meeting and touring hospitals it was hard for me to comprehend why there is a shortage in staff in almost all hospitals but yet they have the funds to add one and two million dollar domiciliary care units and other additions. I can't help but wonder if there is a master plan slowly taking effect that we are not aware of.

Easter Sunday I was a special guest with Past National Commander Florance Valgardson at the Mormon Tabernacle to hear the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. This was truly an uplifting experience.

Another trip to Washington, D. C. for Maria and myself, this time to attend and participate in the People's Employment on Hiring the Disabled. This is also connected with the National Journalism Program sponsored by the DAV. It was my pleasure to present the checks from the Auxiliary to the winning students.

Maria and I also attended a cookout poolside for the students. We were also the judge in a dance contest. There were quite a few celebrities attending, including President Bush. He spoke at the morning session before we made our presentations.

Angel Fire at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial was another moving experience for me. Thousands of people came from all walks of life from all over the U. S. A. to attend this memorial activity. It made me wonder why we do not encourage more support of this memorial in our Americanism program.

A female, a staff member who also happens to be an Auxiliary member, was named to the board of directors during their board meeting. This is another first for the Auxiliary. Her name is Nancy O'Brian and she is in charge of charitable programs for the DAV.

Convention assignments started and I was busy for the next two and a half months, sometimes having five trips in a row, which included the Constitution and Bylaws meeting, the Ed Loan, and the Finance Committee meeting. One month I was at home two days, another month four days.

I attended nine conventions, ranging from Alaska, where I met with the ladies of Anchorage, Alaska to assist them with information on forming a department, to Puerto Rico where I installed their officers, assisted by Adjutant Maria Tedrow. I traveled 35,000 air miles and 7,000 miles by land. And I've gained X number of pounds! That's due to all the excellent cooking, dinners that were sponsored by the Auxiliaries and the chapters. I have had four TV interviews and numerous radio interviews.

I have tried to condense my report to only tell you the facts as I have found them, things I feel you should know about. I have seen much joy and experienced much happiness; and I have seen much sadness, which I too experienced with our members.

The response I have received from my articles have made me realize how many women do read our National Magazine. There is a need for us to reach out to these women.

To the Auxiliary National Officers, Judy and the Auxiliary staff, thank you all for your work, your support, and your efforts in making our organization what it is today.

To our National Adjutant, Maria Tedrow, who I often call my buddy, thank you for all your hours, work, concern, and undying dedication you constantly give. I will always remember the time, talks, and travels we have shared. You are indeed a special person and I appreciate you.

We surpassed our National membership quota, but very few states met their quota. To the states that did make their quota, I congratulate you. Keep up the good work. To the ones that did not, please remember how vital membership is to your future. Our very survival depends on it. Work on it like there is no tomorrow. Because without it, there may not be.

Once again I want to thank you for letting me serve you this year. I have served you to the best of my ability because I care and I love you and our organization. As my article in the July issue of the National Magazine stated, you are, have been, and will always be "The Wind Beneath My Wings." Thank you. [Rising applause.]

Thank you. Now the Chair finds it in order to entertain a motion to accept all the officers' reports.

[Inaudible comment from floor.]

MEMBER. I was going to say that, that's what I got up for. And I guess I got carried away. But certainly aren't we very, very proud of our National Commander for the past year that has certainly been "in the know and on the go." Thank you. [Applause.]

Commander **ALLRED.** Okay, thank you. The Chair calls for a motion to accept the officers' reports.

[Motion from floor.]

Commander **ALLRED**. Okay, the motion has been made. Does it have a second?

[Second from floor.]

Commander **ALLRED**. The motion has a second. Is there any discussion? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. We'll get that out of the way! You did good, girls!

Okay, how about everybody right now before we go into the next thing, I want you to stand up, turn around, whoever is beside you or behind you, give them a hug, tell them something nice, you know, something nice they've got on—"I like your smile," "I like your hair," "I think you're a beautiful person." Stand up.

[Short break.]

Commander **ALLRED**. Ladies, may I have your full attention? I am hereby calling the meeting back to order. Your silence is required. We will now call on our National Historian, Thelma Williamson.

Historian **THELMA WILLIAMSON**. Thank you, Shelia. Commander Allred, National Officers, Past National Commanders, department officers, members and guests:

My report this morning centers around our department charters which have been granted by our National organization. There's really no pattern, no rhyme, and no reason for the order in which they were formed.

The groups in the larger states did not all get their charters first. The organization did not grow in any kind of geographical order from east to west, from north to south, or vice versa. In only a few instances did one state follow another state in receiving a charter.

As you know, our National Auxiliary was organized in San Francisco in 1922, one year after that of the DAV of the World War was founded. However, our Constitution was not ratified until the following year.

The original Constitution made provisions for state departments and local units but made no mention of the number of units necessary in order to qualify for a department charter.

We have no official figures on our National membership prior to 1965. But the creation of departments gives us a clue as to the growth of the organization from 1922 up to the present time.

According to my research the State of California was the first one to receive a department charter. This document was signed in 1929, more than six years after our National Auxiliary Constitution was ratified. Three and a half years later in 1932 we had a second department, and this distinction went to the State of Oregon.

The 1930s were the years of the Great Depression throughout the United States. During that decade many people were out of work and there was little money for anything other than the bare necessities.

Veterans of the World War went to Washington, D. C. and camped on the mall west of the U.S. Capitol. There they demanded that Congress give them a bonus for their wartime service. Instead of receiving a bonus these veterans were routed from their campsites by officers and men of the United States Army.

Despite the depression of the 1930s our organization grew and departments were organized in the Rocky Mountain areas, in states near the Great Lakes, and also in some of those along the East Coast. Our smallest state, Rhode Island, qualified for a charter, and so did the larger states of Massachusetts and Ohio, during the 1930s.

In August 1941 our Bylaws stated that 250 members were necessary to form a department. Four years later this requirement was changed to 150 members. And that's the same number necessary to obtain a department charter today.

Who can forget the Sunday, December 7, 1941, when the Japanese made a surprise attack on our American forces at Pearl Harbor and in other areas in the Pacific? Many of you remember. But we probably have a large number of ladies here who were not even born at that time.

Our Auxiliary at the beginning of World War II had a total of only 13 departments. During the years of this war, 1941 to 1945, six more departments were added to the National rolls as agricultural states and others in the northwestern, central, and southern areas joined the ranks of the DAVA.

The State of Iowa was the last one to be included in this list of departments created during the war. Their charter was signed on August 10, 1945, two days after the atomic bomb was detonated over Nagasaki, Japan and four days before the Japanese forces surrendered to the Allies. At that time the Auxiliary had a total of 19 departments.

During the first full calendar year after World War II our Auxiliary had the most productive year for growth of new departments as seven states qualified for a charter. So you can see people were really coming into the organization. Those receiving those in 1946 were in the western, the southeastern, and the middle Atlantic states of our country.

During that same year the VAVS became active in giving assistance to the hospitalized veterans. The DAV and our Auxiliary, along with other veterans' groups and various clubs, lodges and so forth, worked together in this fledgling organization.

Perhaps the involvement of our ladies with helping to care for those disabled men and women caused an increase in our membership. During the next several years National charters were granted to members in the states in the Mississippi Valley and those in the prairies and also states in the desert areas.

By the end of the Korean war we had 40 states with National charters. Only one state, Nevada, received a charter during the Vietnam war. But many more ladies joined the Auxiliary and our membership increased to more than 30,000 in 1966. The last department charter was granted to the State of Missouri in 1984.

As you can see and readily understand, the membership of an organization such as ours was bound to grow during the times when our nation was engaged in a war and also for a few years immediately afterwards.

At the present time we have a total of 50 departments. There's a DAVA department in every state in the union with the exception of Hawaii and Alaska. We also have departments in the District of Columbia and in Puerto Rico.

For your information I have prepared a chronological list of the dates of these departments and I shall give it to our National Adjutant Maria. She doesn't know it, but she's going to get it. I'm hoping that Maria will make copies of this list available to any of the people who are interested. If any department commander would like to obtain a copy she should contact our National Adjutant.

In closing, I'd like to state that to the best of my knowledge no collection of the dates of department charters has ever been attempted; apparently they've never kept a record of the time that they send these out.

I do want to thank every department commander and every individual member who helped me with this project. Without your cooperation I could never have done it. That's all for now. Thanks for listening. [Applause.]

Commander ALLRED. Thank you, Thelma. Well, I'll tell you, you can tell that she has done indepth research to find out about our organization. And you know somebody that does that much research has got to be "in the know and on the go." Thank you, Thelma.

Next we have our Educational Loan Fund Director, Phyllis Greaney.

Ms. PHYLLIS GREANEY. Thank you, Shelia. National Commander Shelia Allred, National Adjutant Maria Tedrow, National Officers, Past National Commanders, members of the Disabled American Veterans and guests:

I have enjoyed this past year serving the Disabled American Veterans as director of the National Educational Loan Fund. It has been a pleasure serving under Commander Shelia.

The National Educational Loan Fund Committee met on Monday, June 2, 1990, at the Signature Inn in Kentucky. The meeting began approximately at 9:00 o'clock and adjourned at 5:00 p.m. We were so busy that we did not break for lunch but drank coffee and munched on chips and candy that Maria provided.

This year the committee consisted of National Commander Shelia Allred, Senior Vice-Commander Myrtice Vinson, Immediate Past National Commander Rose Schilpp, and myself as director. National Adjutant Maria Tedrow and Assistant National Adjutant Judy Hezlep joined us and as always were most helpful. Judy has a great deal of responsibility for the Loan Fund.

The committee reviewed new and renewal applications, being aware of the number of students to whom we can afford to grant loans. We discussed eligibility requirements for the student loans and a few students who do not meet the deadlines regarding submitting grades and other requirements.

We stressed the need for official transcript of grades that should be sent to us from the registrar's office of the school the student is attending; also if a student drops out of school and does not notify us and later requests renewal of his or her loan we will not consider that request.

Although it has been our policy not to grant loans to students attending schools in foreign countries this has not been stated on the information sheet, and we agreed we should add this.

I would like to review the eligibility requirements for a student to be considered for a student loan from the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary. They are:

Number 1, children of full paid life members of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary.

Number 2, if a mother is no longer living, children of full paid life members of the Disabled American Veterans.

Three, full paid life members of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary.

For eligible students, academic achievement and financial need are considerations in granting loans. A student must have at least a 2.0 grade point average. The amount of the loan can be up to but not more than $1,000 per year for no more than four years. The student must be attending a school beyond high school on a full-time basis. Only one new applicant per family per year will be considered. Loans are interest-free.

The total amount of loans granted each year will be determined by the money that is available in the Educational Loan Fund. The amount of each loan is determined by the committee. If a loan is granted a check will be sent directly to the school but not to the student or parent. It should also be noted that a full paid life membership does not guarantee a loan.

Billing for repayment will begin 90 days after graduation or immediately upon withdrawal from school. Repayment amounts are structured so that the loan can be paid in full within seven years or less. The amount of repayment should not be less than $50 per month.

This year we granted 39 student loans for the academic year 1990–1991. Later one student notified us that she had received scholarships and did not need a loan from the DAVA; therefore, we are granting loans to 38 students for this academic year.

Three students will be attending universities at the graduate level this year. They are attending the following schools: the University of Cincinnati School of Law, Georgetown University School of Law, the University of Kentucky School of Medicine.

Nine students will be attending the following four-year colleges this academic year: Boston College, Franklin, Hanover, Kansas College of Technology, Marist, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy, Messiah, St. Anselm, and Wilkes College.

One student will be attending Fergus Falls Community College and another student will be attending the Universal Technical Institute.

The universities that 24 students will be enrolled in this fall are as follows: Alfred; Arizona; Clark; Columbus; Cornell, two students; Delaware; Duquesne; Indiana; Indiana State; Kansas State; Maine; Minnesota; Nebraska; Notre Dame; Ohio State; Pennsylvania State, two students; Pittsburgh; Purdue; Scranton; Suffolk; Texas Technical; and Wisconsin.

The students are majoring in a variety of fields to reach their academic goals.

Parents and students are finding it increasingly more difficult to finance the cost of a college education. I read a report recently that stated private college tuitions are rising more than the cost of living. Tuition at state colleges and universities are also rising.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts tuitions for private colleges range from $8,000 to $18,000 per year, and this is for tuition only. Also in Massachusetts tuitions at state colleges have increased recently. Fewer courses are offered and a decrease in the number of students admitted.

With the increase of unemployment it is difficult for parents and also for students to find part-time and summer employment. I am sure that this is true in many states. Also, federal cutbacks in educational loans have increased. Parents and students have to apply to many private organizations for assistance.

We have many inquiries in regard to our Educational Loan Fund from many parents and students who do not meet our eligibility requirements. Some students feel they qualify based on their father's membership in the Disabled American Veterans when their mothers are living but not full paid life members of the Auxiliary. Some parents are not members of either organization.

In order for us to continue to help our younger generation meet their educational goals we should be able to assist more needy qualified students. In order to do this we need your support. The committee cannot have fund-raising activities; we depend on contributions from units, state departments of the DAV and Auxiliary, individuals, and memorial contributions. We hope you will remember the National Educational Loan Fund during this coming year. All contributions should be sent to National Headquarters.

On behalf of the committee and our students a sincere "thank you" to all who contribute to the Educational Loan Fund and to those who will contribute this year. Again I wish to say "thanks" to our National Adjutant, Maria Tedrow, our Assistant Adjutant, Judy Hezlep, for their continued support, and also to their staff.

The Educational Loan Fund is a very worthwhile endeavor to be able to help our younger generation as well as somewhat older members of the DAV who wish to continue their education.

I wish to thank our Commander, Shelia Allred, for appointing me as director of the National Educational Loan Fund and the National Executive Committee for approving my appointment.

If you have any questions regarding the Fund, I, the committee members, and Judy Hezlep, will be pleased to meet with you during this convention. Thank you for your kind attention. [Applause.]

Commander ALLRED. Thank you, Phyllis. Can you imagine all the applications, data, grade point averages, that this lady has to read and check. So this tells you that for sure that our National Ed Loan Director Phyllis is "in the know and on the go." Thank you, Phyllis, for a very good report.

Ms. MARJORIE VINCENT. Madam Commander, Marjorie Vincent, Past National Commander—I'm right down the middle aisle.

Commander ALLRED. Oh, there you are! I can't see at a distance.

Ms. VINCENT. I came to the microphone; I don't want to be missed.

Commander ALLRED. Yes, the Chair recognizes Marjorie Vincent. Very good.

Ms. VINCENT. I would like to know if we have your permission to pass out the money bags so that those who would like to make contributions to the Educational Loan Fund can do so. There's only one old bag, I need more than that.

Commander **Allred**. We've got some bags up here. We're ready. Absolutely. Sergeant at Arms, would you bring some pages, send some pages down to the front to pick up the bags for contributions to the National Educational Loan Fund. The pages are coming down to get the bags. They're going to be passing between you.

Adjutant **Tedrow**. We have Forget-Me-Not Luncheon tickets on sale and they are out at the information desk. They are not at our registration desk as they normally are, they're at the information desk. And I can assure you we are going to have a good menu, so if you don't come you're missing out on a lot.

Southern Caucus Breakfast, Helen Hogan says that tickets are still available.

And the Past National Commanders' dinner will be at 6:30 in the Green Room—at least they haven't changed that on us yet.

Western Round-Up, meet by the piano following this meeting, by Florence Valgardson.

And we will have some drawings later. If a couple of the pages would go up there and bring those gifts down here we'll take care of those later. Okay?

And the chairmen, could I please have your reports? Because Thyra Ellis needs them down there; is that correct, Thyra? But I need the reports if you will please turn them in.

Southern Caucus Breakfast is at Huntington A, B and C at 7:00 o'clock in the morning. Huntington A, B and C, 7:00 o'clock in the morning. And that is tomorrow morning.

Commander **Allred**. Before we start with the presentations of checks, is Hazel Meyers in the room? We would like once again to recognize Hazel and ask her to please stand. Hazel is the Past National Commanders' Award recipient for the outstanding member of the year. And she truly deserves it. [Applause.]

Ms. **Hazel Meyers**. I'd just like to ask each one of you that belong to a unit, regardless of how rural and small, if it's only the ten members you need for a charter, or if you're fortunate enough to have above the thousand mark, I'd like for you to tell them that I accept this award for each one of them, because each one of them out there as well as you in this room deserve this. I'm not so sure that I do. But you tell them that I send to them my thanks for all they do for our veterans and their families, for their communities, their towns, their hamlets, their states, and our nation.

I will take this award home that was given to me but I'll take it home and hang it on the wall of my glassed-in porch and every day that I look at it I will thank God for the friendship of each one of you and for what you have done for everyone in our country. And I do mean that, that this award belongs to every one of you. Thank you. [Applause.]

Commander **Allred**. Thank you, Hazel, and congratulations again. Phyllis, would you please come to the podium?

Member. I present this check from Unit 20, Glendale, Arizona.

Member. I present this check from Phoenix Unit 1.

Member. I'd like to present this check in memory of my husband.

MEMBER. I would like to present this check from the Department of Iowa.

MEMBER. I'd like to present this check from the Department of Missouri.

MEMBER. I'd like to present our check from the Department of California. And I also have two separate checks in memory of one of our Auxiliary members that passed away, Barbara Clark.

MEMBER. I'd like to present this check on behalf of the Department of New York.

Ms. **RUTH N. ALLEN**. Hi, I'm Ruth N. Allen. I'd like to present this on behalf of Dallas 31 as I thank you for my education. It's complete. [Applause.]

MEMBER. Phyllis, I'd like to present you this promissory note, a check from our unit—it's in my room—from [inaudible] Number 2, Kansas City.

Ms. **LINDA RILEY**. Linda Riley from the Department of Indiana, department commander. And I'd like to present you this check.

MEMBER. I'd like to present this check from Alliance, Ohio, Unit 50.

MEMBER. This is from Department of Nevada.

MEMBER. This is presented to you from the Department of Ohio.

MEMBER. This is from Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. We had promised Shelia we were going to have a quilt raffle. And we're sorry she didn't win it, but she does win with the $300.

MEMBER. I'd like to present this from the Department of Delaware and a check from Unit 9, Seaford, Delaware.

MEMBER. I'd like to present this check to you from the Department of Arizona.

MEMBER. I'd like to present this check to you from the Department of Michigan.

Ms. **LINDA NAPIER**. My name is Linda Napier. I'm from the Department of Kentucky. And I'd like to present this check for $1,000. [Applause.]

MEMBER. I'd like to present this gift from the Department of Pennsylvania. And Barbara is our up-and-coming National Officer. Thank you.

MEMBER. I'd like to present this to you, Phyllis, from the Department of Massachusetts.

MEMBER. It is my pleasure to present this check from the Department of Georgia.

Ms. **MARIE BOYD**. I'm Marie Boyd from Unit 32, Dallas. We're glad to present this check to the Educational Fund in honor of our commander, who has had a stroke, and our real good worker friend, Ada Couch.

Ms. **ELAINE C. MORRIS**. My name is Elaine C. Morris. I'm the state commander from the Department of Wisconsin. It's an honor and a privilege and a pleasure to present this check on behalf of the Department of Wisconsin.

MEMBER. I would like to present this check to you from the Department of Maine.

MEMBER. This donation is from the Department of West Virginia.

Ms. **ANN GRINA**. Phyllis, I'm Ann Grina, treasurer of the Department of New Hampshire. I'd like to present this to you. Thank you.

MEMBER. This check is from the Department of Oregon.

Ms. **JOANNE LAWS**. I'm Joanne Laws. This check is from Auxiliary Unit #37, Kentucky.

Ms. **ANNA BURTON**. Here's a check from Anna Burton, Johnson County #34. Judy wouldn't let me come to the next convention if I don't give her one.

Ms. **GREANEY**. Thank you very much. On behalf of the students and the committee I'd like to thank all of you for this very nice gesture and for all of the money and checks. Thank you. [Applause.]

MEMBER. [Inaudible] a page, and I picked up the bag. We've gone through the room. And I present you back your three bags.

Ms. **GREANEY**. Thank you, all of you, again. Thank you, Shelia. Sorry you didn't get the quilt!

Commander **ALLRED**. That's what I call three bags full! Yea! I like that! I, too, want to thank you for all your contributions to the Ed Loan Fund. It is certainly a worthwhile cause. If you would look at all those applications and go through those students that's wanting to continue their education you would truly understand why it is one of the prime programs in our Auxiliary.

At this time I would like to call on Maria Tedrow for committee assignments. We are still in order, ladies. Please be silent.

Adjutant **TEDROW**. Yes, because you're all on committees, or most of you are, and after a while I know somebody is going to come in the office and say, "What time does that committee meet and where do we go?" So I'm going to tell you right now where to go.

First of all I would like to apologize to Arizona. Apparently this morning when the flags came in I didn't recognize Arizona. Arizona, I am sorry. Your flags are here.

Okay, committees. This will be the Americanism Committee, and it will meet at the San Simeon A and B. And that's on the concourse level. That's the fourth floor. The Americanism Committee, San Simeon, concourse level. The members of the Americanism Committee will be:

Nicky Murray, District 1; Enid Gonzales, District 2; Nancy Dorey, District 3; Betty Meredith, District 4; Mildred Furlong, District 5; Nilda Mejias, District 6; Joan Cook, District 7; Noma Henley, District 8; Renee Jones, District 9; Linda Griffin, District 10; Farris Moseley, District 11; Rose Wells, District 12; Joanne Laws, District 13; Catena Piti, District 14; Bonita Mitchell, District 15; Connie Salisbury, District 16; Myrtle Shakespeare, District 17; Pat Heun, District 18; Cay Bates, District 19; Patricia White, District 20; and Julia D. Alexander, District 21. And your chairman for the Americanism Committee will be Joan Cook of Florida.

The next one is Community Service. And you will meet at the Palos Verdes Room, and that again is on concourse level, at 2:00 o'clock. Community Service:

District 1, Louise Barrett; District 2, Phyllis Novak; District 3, Marilyn Vasko; District 4, Arline Phillips; District 5, Betty Gutch; District 6, Mildred Velazquez; District 7, Ramona Lange; District 8, Lucy Horn; District 9, Shirley Tester; District 10, Shirley Page; District 11, Maxine Thomas; District 12, Sherri Numbers; District 13, Carolyn Vogel; District 14, Lucy Bradbury; District 15, Beverly Bain; District 16, Maureen Daniels; District 17, Darlene Urioste; District 18, Carol Kulick; District 19, Minnie Charboneau; District

20, Ann Crowell; District 21, Lillian Stevenson. Chairman of the Community Service will be Darlene Urioste. I may have pronounced your name wrong, Darlene. Are you in the room? She's from New Mexico, right.

History. History is in the Huntington A, B and C, concourse level, 2:00 o'clock. History:

District 1, Grace Wall; District 3, Lillian Tanguay; District 4, Beatrice Albanese; District 6, Clara Gauer; District 7, Fran Fabregas; District 8, Nita Fraser; District 9, Judy Davis, District 10, Virginia Mecher; District 11, Martha Fisher; District 12, Elaine Morris; District 13, Betty Workman; District 14, Kathryn Kern; District 15, Doris Rickert; District 16, Gladys Monji; District 17, Judy Lovell; District 18, Iris Brzezinski—is Iris here? Did I get it right? Yea! District 19, Suzan Fairbanks; District 20, Gloria Magill; District 21, Lois Holley. And the chairman will be Betty Workman.

Hospital, Carmel Room, concourse level. Yes, Joan.

Ms. JOAN COOK. Joan Cook, District 7. Due to illness Fran Fabregas cannot serve on that committee.

Adjutant TEDROW. Do you have anyone else from Florida that——

Ms. COOK. Yes, Dolores Black.

Adjutant TEDROW. I'm sorry, I didn't get the name.

Ms. COOK. Dolores Black.

Adjutant TEDROW. Okay, we will make that change.

Ms. COOK. Thank you.

Adjutant TEDROW. Thank you, Joan. The next one, as I said, is Hospital, Carmel Room, 2:00 o'clock, concourse level.

District 1, Dorothy Young; District 2, Kay Barletta; District 3, Grace Boland; District 4, Elsie Fanslau; District 5, Virginia Hartman; District 6, Evelyn Dorsey; District 7, Georgette Warburton; District 8, Inez Sims; District 9, Martha McGow; District 10, Connie Timmerman; District 11, Grace Nagel; District 12, Shaaron Wood; District 13, Mary Patterson; District 14, Mary Lou Weber; District 15, Olwyn Picking; District 16, Donna Stinnett; District 17, Betty Jones; District 18, Kay Carpenito; District 20, Marie Boyd; and District 21, Phyllis Netter. And if I mispronounced your names I am truly sorry. Chairman of that committee, chairman of Hospital Committee is Mary Lou Weber.

Junior Activities. Junior Activities will be in the Redondo Room at 2:00 o'clock on the concourse level.

District 1, Estelle Mike; District 2, Dorothy Bednarczyk; District 3, Ann Grina; District 4, Sandra Schulman; District 5, Marie Cummings; District 6, Christina Tharp; District 7, Ruth Anderson; District 8, Susan Henry; District 9, Tara Allred; District 10, Marjorie Timmerman; District 11, Judy Uetterling; District 12, Carol Lawrence; District 13, Linda Napier; District 14, Judy Steinhouse; District 15, Sadie Zinger; District 16, Gladys Barnes; District 17, Florence Valgardson; District 18, Sally Dannenberg; District 19, Kathy Clampitt; District 20, Jewelene Jones; and District 21, Debi Huddleston. Chairman for the Junior Activities will be Debi Huddleston.

Legislative. Legislative will meet in the Malibu Room on the concourse level, 2:00 o'clock.

District 1, Evelyn LeBlanc; District 3, Laura Trombley; District 4, Florence Kehne; District 5, Sadie Turner; District 6, Alice Cox; District 7, Ann Rice; District 8, Gertie Duplechain—is she here?—District 9, Emma Hughes; District 10, Heidi Flack; District 11, Elizabeth Thomas; District 12, Nancy Dunday; District 13, Barbara Chumley; District 14, Hulda Olson; District 15, Judy McLaskey; District 16, Isabel Provensal; District 17, Gertrude Day; District 18, Joanne Molen; District 19, Kathy Freeman; District 20, Florence Fowler; District 21, Carolyn Cox. And the chairman for that will be Nancy Dunday.

Mae Holmes Award. This is in the Monterey Room, concourse level, 2:00 o'clock.

District 1, Donna Turner; District 3, Marie Sanchas; District 4, Josephine Loncosky; District 5, Sonia Baldwin; District 6, Annie Randolph; District 7, Helen Shoudel—I got your name, Annie; you have been called!—District 8, Lillian Vaughan; District 9, Frieda Lynch; District 10, Leona Sharp; District 11, Virginia Gleason; District 12, Adele Jackson; District 13, Joyce Sablic; District 14, Margie Freetly; District 15, Maxine M. Horton; District 16, Sylvia Pasnak; District 17, Lil Mason; District 18, Kay Yeager; District 19, Sarah LaPlante; District 20, Joyce Dye; District 21, Bettye Campbell. Chairman of the Mae Holmes Committee will be Leona Sharp.

Membership, Manhattan Room, 2:00 o'clock, concourse level.

District 1, Miriam Daley; District 2, Melania Hartloff; District 3, Lois Cordaro; District 4, Louise Jacklin; District 5, Carol McNeal; District 6, Ruth White; District 7, Grace McLaughlin; District 8, Larien Newcomb—is there a problem over there? I only want to read these names one time, please! District 9, Linda Barbee; District 10, Betty Hoag; District 11, Ailsa Thomas; District 12, Zona Schalow; District 13, Mildred Brown; District 14, Karlette Rizzi; District 15, Goldie M. Smith; District 16, Esther Lofton; District 17, Sharon Martinez; District 18, Ellie Shuman; District 19, Evelyn Thompson; District 20, Charline Nowlin; District 21, Elaine Mooney. Now, the chairman for Membership will be Miriam Daley.

And at this time I would like to introduce the advisors to these committees, and if they would stand I'd appreciate it.

The advisor to the Committee on Membership will be Claudia Roy. The advisor on Mae Holmes will be Myrtice Vinson. The advisor on Legislation will be Barbara Maldet. The advisor on Junior Activities will be Ruthie Nowlin, and she's back there. The advisor on Hospital will be Vernice Eunice, and she's over there. The advisor on History will be Jane Troutman, and she's right there. The advisor on Americanism will be Bonita Newell. And the advisor on Community Service will be Barbara Hicks.

I have two more committees here—oh, I'm sorry, three more committees.

VAVS, Eleanor Walkney the advisor. Eleanor, are you in this room? I almost forgot you, Eleanor! Doggone it! VAVS. And it's going to be in the Capistrano Room—I hope the swallows aren't there when you get there!—concourse level at 2:00 o'clock. Okay, VAVS:

District 1, Janet Snow; District 2, Dolores Robidoux; District 3, Harriet Anderson; District 4, Sarah Tregaskis; District 5, Donna Sellers; District 6, Malinda Johnson; District 7, Rhea Garrett; District 8, Ernie Covington; District 9, Georgia Thomas; District 10, Millie Jelsma; District 11, Katharine Powers; District 12, Mary

Michal; District 13, Irene Sablic; District 14, Marie Doherty; District 15, Myrna Edson; District 16, Geneva Farmer; District 17, Betty Shropshire; District 18, Jan Bennett; District 19, Marjorie Fairbanks; District 20, Virginia Stewart; and District 21 is Sadie Kimberling. And the chairman will be Geneva Farmer on VAVS.

Now we're down to two. The next two committees were the elected committees.

The first one is Constitution and Bylaws. And it will meet in the Avila A and B at 2:00 o'clock, concourse level. Constitution and Bylaws:

District 1, Jackie Fossiano; District 2, Stella Gnatek; District 3, Ann Young; District 4, Marie Robinson; District 5; Jeanne Zwick; District 6; Neva Langston; District 7, Lucille McCarthy; District 8, Opal Alexander; District 9, Judy Tolar; District 10, Ruth Ike; District 11, Mary Kabler; District 12, Barbara Przybylski—I'm sorry, Barb. Is that pretty good? Okay. Got a couple too many "Ys" in there for me or something this morning! Okay, District 13, Linda Riley; District 14, Miriam Kiser; District 15, Elizabeth Diestler; District 16, Vicki Oneal; District 17, Erlinda Ortiz; District 18, Evelynne Dunn; District 19, Gisele Dunn; District 20, Hazel Neill; District 21, Loneita Shoemaker. Their advisor will be Lee McGinnis and they will elect their own chairman.

I normally don't drink water, but! I always said water would kill you, all the chemicals in it!

Okay, Nominations. And this also is an elected committee. And I don't know whether I should tell where they meet or not—but the Nominating Committee does meet in the Oceanside Room, and it will be on concourse level, and they will meet at 2:00 o'clock. Committee on Nominations:

District 1, Phyllis Greaney; District 2, Helen Gasper; District 3, Claire Nadeau; District 4, Linda Trulio; District 5, Frances Miller; District 6, Hazel Meyers; District 7, Delores Roussey; District 8, Fairee Bridges; District 9, Vicky Grier; District 10, Carol Gray; District 11, Kit Feighner; District 12, Ruth Sarchi; District 13, Virginia Merrifield; District 14, Katherine Pearson; District 15, Virginia Alford; District 16, Joan Turbeville; District 17, Pauline Wright; District 18, Sally Wilton; District 19, Mary Ann Sholly; District 20, Louise Rapisand; District 21, Jan Archer. And the advisor to that committee will be Junior Past Commander Rose M. Schilpp, and they also will elect a chairman.

And I didn't call out—apparently they didn't have somebody on Mae Holmes, so I do have someone now from District 6 and that will be Elizabeth Juba. Is that correct? That's not correct? Elizabeth Juba is going to take your place, Annie? You're going to get out of it yet, huh? Okay, Elizabeth Juba instead of Annie Randolph. Okay.

And that, Madam Commander, are the committees.

Now, all these committees are going to be where? "In the know and on the go."

Commander Allred. Well, you know, I would say that our Adjutant here has also been "in the know and on the go" too. Okay. We're going to recess the convention session. Do not leave. We have door prizes. Please stay.

This convention is hereby recessed to reconvene tomorrow morning, Tuesday, July 31, 1990, at 9:00 o'clock a.m.

[Whereupon the meeting recessed at 12:15 o'clock p.m.]

TUESDAY MORNING SESSION

July 31, 1990

The Tuesday morning session of the 1990 National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary convened in the Pacific Ballroom of the Anaheim Hilton Hotel, Anaheim California, July 31, 1990, and was called to order at 9:10 o'clock a.m. by Commander Shelia C. Allred.

Commander SHELIA C. ALLRED. I hereby call the National Convention back to order. We will have our opening prayer by Margaret Hass.

Chaplain HASS. Heavenly Father, we ask Your continued blessing on our organization. Help us to be faithful in all our discharge of our duties and honorable in all our dealings. Help us to bring comfort to those in sorrow, courage to those who are afraid and those that are absent from us today.

We would also ask Your blessing and care for those serving our country now to make it a better place for us to live. Keep us faithful to Thee in our service to our veterans that we may look to a future of faith and hope for the good of our country. All this we ask in the glory of Your Holy Name, Amen.

Commander ALLRED. Americanism Chairman Bonnie Newell will lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag.

Third Junior Vice-Commander NEWELL. Free your hands, stand at attention, and repeat with me the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag.

[Pledge of Allegiance was recited.]

Commander ALLRED. I want to welcome you back to the convention proceedings. I hope you have enjoyed yourself in the committee meetings.

I got really excited yesterday when I was talking to some of the ladies that had sat in on a committee for the first time. They had learned a lot. I really liked their enthusiasm. They had a lot of things that they could take back to their own units and states.

And it really gave me a good feeling to know that these women were coming and participating actively in their National Convention—which brings me to make a statement.

Now yesterday I don't know whether you were tired from going to Disneyland, I don't know whether you were hung over from the reception, but I know for a fact, because I have traveled all across this country, that there's more enthusiasm in this organization than we saw yesterday. [Applause.] And I want to tell you, I want you to show it today.

Our convention chairman, Bea Vieira, said the reason some of them said that they weren't so enthusiastic, they were so cold [Applause.] and they were too cold to move. Let me tell you, in the North Pole when they want to get warmed up they go [indicating] and they move around. It works, it gets the blood circulating. We will try to make some adjustments.

We are going into a lot of reports today, a lot of awards. And I say to you once again, if that was you or if was your unit that had won that award you would be excited. So be excited with these women when they win it. And let's don't sit on our hands, let's show we're proud that they have worked in the Auxiliary programs this year.

I would like to at this time introduce a lady that has done an outstanding job in VAVS work. She received the highest award that our organization, and that includes the parent organization, the highest award that we can give in recognition for the fine work she's done at the VAVS work and medical centers. I would like to introduce to you Lillian Golino. Would you please stand? [Applause.]

All right, there you go! That's the way to do it! Congratulations, Lillian. God bless you, and thank you for all your hard work and all your hours. We do appreciate it.

We will now have our credentials report by Chairman Vicki Oneal.

Ms. **Vicki Oneal.** Madam National Commander, National Officers, delegates: The credentials report. We still have a little memo up here to announce that the following units have yet not been cleared for voting, so if you want to vote you have to go the office: California 23, California 40, Connecticut 15, Washington, D. C. 16, Kansas 16, Massachusetts 44, Michigan 118, Missouri 62, Washington 1, Department of Washington, Hawaii 1.

The total units registered is 336, total departments registered is 44; which gives a total of 380. Delegates registered 729, alternates registered 43, guests 76; which brings a total of 848. Total unit votes 2,246, total department votes 44, National officers, chairmen, and NECs 25, PNCs 13; a grand total of votes of 2,328.

Commander **Allred.** Thank you, Vicki.

We will now call on our chairman of the Finance and Budget Committee for presentation of the proposed National budget report. Shirley Larson.

Ms. **Shirley Larson.** Thank you. Good morning, ladies. Are we in the know and on the go for Commander Shelia—and all of us? Good.

Commander Sheila, National Officers, Past National Officers, and delegates: The National Finance Committee—composed of Betty Victorine from District 1; Annie Randolph, District 6; Virginia Merrifield, District 13; Commander Shelia Allred; Adjutant Maria Tedrow; Assistant Adjutant Judy Hezlep; and yours truly, Shirley Larson—met at 9:20 July 28, 1990 at the National Convention held in the Hilton Hotel, Anaheim, California for the purpose of reviewing the budget as presented to you at the door by the pages. Now you've checked it over, I now make the motion to accept this budget as printed.

Commander **Allred.** We have a motion on the floor by Chairman Shirley Larson to accept the budget as printed. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Victorine.** Madam Commander, the NEC from District 1, Betty Victorine, seconds the motion.

Commander **Allred.** NEC Betty Victorine from District 1 seconds the motion. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried. I'd like to say that the ladies did a lot of hard work on this budget.

Now we will have the first reading of our Constitution and Bylaws. And let me say this, this is the first reading of our Constitution and Bylaws, we will have no questions, no comments. The questions you have or comments will be at the second reading, as you well know.

I would like to call Loneita Shoemaker, would she come forward, for the first reading of the Constitution and Bylaws.

Ms. **Loneita Shoemaker**. Good morning. National Commander Shelia, National Officers, delegates, and guests: The National Convention Constitution and Bylaws Committee met Monday, July 30th, in the Avila Room at 2:00 p.m. All members of the committee were present. And the committee has the following bylaw amendments to present. Proposed bylaw amendments:

On Page N-4, Article I, Section 1, Line 3, strike out "and" and insert "or." Section 1 will then read:

> The governing bodies of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary shall be the National Convention, the National Executive Committee, and the delegates or alternates of the state departments and units.

Page N-4, Article I, Section 3, Line 3, strike out "and" and insert "or." Section 3 will then read:

> The National Convention shall be composed of the elected National Officers, the Past National Commanders, the National Executive Committeewomen, and the delegates or alternates representing the state departments and units of the organization.

Page N-4 and N-5, Article I, Section 4, Paragraph 4, strike the entire paragraph and substitute the following:

> A delegate to a National Convention shall not be allowed to vote until she is properly registered, dues paid the convention year, has received the membership obligation, and is not indebted to the organization. A member shall not cast a vote in the National Convention in more than one representative capacity, or be registered as a delegate from more than one unit. In the absence of any delegate, her vote shall be cast by her alternate.

Page N-8, Convention Rule 21, Paragraph 3, strike out the entire paragraph and substitute the following:

> Each National Chairman shall serve as advisor to her respective committee. Other committee advisors shall be assigned by the National Commander. Each advisor shall attend the meetings of her committee and enter into committee discussions without the privilege of voting.

Page N-9, 4, Auxiliary Past National Commanders Award. This is not a convention committee. Strike out 4 and move to Page VIII, Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary, Past National Commanders.

Page N-11, Article III, Section 4, Paragraph 2, strike out the entire paragraph and substitute the following:

> She shall review all state Standing Rules for any discrepancies prior to their becoming effective.

Page N-12, Article III, Section 5, Paragraph 3, Line 3, place a period after the word "Adjutant(s)" and strike out the balance of Paragraph 3 and substitute the following:

> The National Adjutant may employ other personnel as may be deemed necessary to conduct the business affairs of her office. She shall determine the salary of all personnel by and with the consent of the National Finance Committee.

Article III, Section 5, Paragraph 3, will then read:

The National Adjutant, by and with the consent of the National Commander and the National Executive Committee, may appoint Assistant National Adjutant(s). The National Adjutant may employ other personnel as may be deemed necessary to conduct the business affairs of her office. She shall determine the salary of all personnel by and with the consent of the National Finance Committee.

Page N-15, Article V, Section 3, Paragraph 2, strike out the last sentence and substitute the following:

The National Commander shall appoint a member of the National Executive Committee to fill any vacancy.

Article V, Section 3, Paragraph 2, will then read:

The National Executive Committee shall elect to the Finance Committee two National Executive Committeewomen from the even-numbered districts in the even-numbered years and two National Executive Committeewomen from the odd-numbered districts in the odd-numbered years for a two-year term. The National Commander shall appoint a member of the National Executive Committee to fill any vacancy.

Page N-20 through N-24, Article IX, Section 1 through 13, strike out the entire article and substitute the following:

ARTICLE IX—STATE DEPARTMENTS

Section 1: Composition

The Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary for the purpose of administration may be divided into state departments.

Each state department shall be the authorized governing body of Auxiliary units operating within the boundary lines of that state.

Each chartered Auxiliary unit shall affiliate with the state department within which it is organized, and shall have all rights and privileges equal to all other chartered units within that state.

Each state department shall have a state Auxiliary at large, using the state DAV chapter at large name and number.

Section 2: State Charter

A state charter may be granted upon application to National Headquarters following a majority vote of local units in good standing within a state where there are at least three active Auxiliary units with a minimum of 150 members.

An application for a state charter must be accompanied by a charter fee of $2 per unit for each unit signing the application, and the $25 fidelity bond premium. Such application shall be approved by the state executive committee of the Disabled American Veterans.

Section 3: Governing Powers

The governing body of the state department shall be the state convention. Business of the organization requiring consideration between conventions shall be transacted by the state executive committee.

Section 4: State Conventions

Each state department shall hold an annual convention at a time and place selected by its respective Disabled American Veterans state department. Said convention shall operate under convention rules provided by each state department.

Section 5: State Bylaws

Each state department shall be governed by standard state Bylaws as provided in the National Constitution and Bylaws of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary. Such Bylaws shall not prohibit a state department from designating the number of state junior vice-commanders, appointed state officers and committees, state per capita and/or state mandates.

SECTION 6: STATE STANDING RULES

Standing Rules shall be adopted by each state department. Such rules will relate to the details of the state department and shall not conflict with the National Constitution and Bylaws and the standard state Bylaws.

Standing Rules shall be adopted by a majority vote at the state convention.

SECTION 7: STATE OFFICERS

Each state department shall elect state officers and appoint such officers as provided in the standard state Bylaws and state Standing Rules.

SECTION 8: DISTRICTS, REGIONS, ZONES OF STATE DEPARTMENTS

In states where districts, regions, or zones of the Disabled American Veterans are established, the Auxiliary may establish similar districts, regions, or zones.

No district, region, or zone shall exercise the power of a governing body or conduct any fundraising activity.

They shall operate under rules adopted by their state department, provided such rules are consistent with the standard state Bylaws and with the National Constitution and Bylaws of the Auxiliary.

Page N–25, Article X, Section 1, Paragraph 2 and Paragraph 3, strike out both paragraphs and substitute the following:

Article X, Section 1, Paragraph 2, will then read:

All applications for charter shall be made directly to National Headquarters. Applications shall be accompanied with a $5 National charter fee, $2.50 fidelity bond premium, and the entire amount of dues for each member.

Article X, Section 1, Paragraph 3, will then read:

At least ten new senior memberships must accompany each charter application. Transfer and junior members may be added after the ten new senior memberships.

Page N–25, Article X, Sections 3, 4, 5, and 6, strike out the entire sections and substitute the following:

SECTION 3:

An active chartered unit is one: (a) which has ten or more paid-up life and/or annual senior members; (b) which holds at least ten monthly business meetings per year; (c) which conducts an annual election for unit officers.

SECTION 4:

An inactive chartered unit is one which does not meet the requirements set forth in Section 3 and it is subject to having its charter revoked.

An inactive unit cannot purchase jewelry, flags, or caps bearing the official emblem of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary from National Headquarters.

SECTION 5:

A chartered unit must be in good standing with National mandates paid and a copy of their financial report filed with National Headquarters before delegates may vote at National Convention.

SECTION 6:

A chartered unit must be in good standing with state mandates (if any) paid, and a copy of their financial report filed with state before delegates may vote at state convention.

Page N–27, Article XII, Sections 1 through 4, strike out entire article and substitute the following:

ARTICLE XII—OFFENSES, PENALTIES, APPEALS, AND LAWSUITS

SECTION 1: OFFENSES

No member of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary shall have her membership rights abridged except for the following:

(a) Violation of the Constitution and Bylaws of the National organization, the state department, or a local unit.

(b) Refusal to comply with the lawful orders of the National Convention, the National Executive Committee, or the state department.

(c) Conduct not conducive to the best interests of the organization, or contrary to the maintenance of proper order and decorum within the organization.

(d) Failure to comply with the lawful orders of the National Commander.

SECTION 2: PENALTIES

The penalties imposed under Section 1 are defined as follows:

(a) Reprimand shall consist of a written admonition to the member of the National Commander.

(b) Suspension shall remove the member for not more than one year from membership and/or from any office held by her. The National Commander may temporarily suspend a member if in her sole discretion she determines that a suspension is in the best interests of the organization.

(c) Transfer shall be the transfer of membership to the state or National at-large units.

(d) Expulsion shall permanently remove the member from membership.

SECTION 3: APPEALS

The penalty imposed shall be final, unless the penalty is expulsion. In such case, written appeal to the National Executive Committee stating reasons for appeal must be filed within 30 days after mailing of the penalty to the member. The appeal is to be sent to the National Adjutant by registered mail. Such appeal shall be without cost to the National organization.

Under such appeal the burden shall be upon the member to demonstrate that the decision is clearly erroneous.

The decision of the National Executive Committee under this article shall be final, anything to the contrary in these Bylaws notwithstanding.

SECTION 4: LAWSUITS

A member may be suspended should she resort to or join in a court action against a unit, state department, or the National organization or officers thereof, as such, before exhausting all remedies available within the organization.

Page N-29, Article XIV, Section 3, Paragraph 2, Lines 5 and 6, strike out "or district, region, or zone commander" and insert on Line 5 the word "or" between "officers" and "a past." Section 3, Paragraph 2, would then read:

State executive committeewomen shall be installed by an Auxiliary Past National Commander, an elected National Officer, a National Adjutant, an Assistant National Adjutant, a National Executive Committeewoman, an elected state officer, or a past state commander.

Page N-29, Article XIV, Section 4, Line 5, strike out "a district, region, or zone commander." Section 4 will then read:

Unit officers shall be installed by an Auxiliary Past National Commander, an elected National Officer, a National Adjutant, an Assistant National Adjutant, a National Executive Committeewomen, an elected state officer, a past state commander, or a past unit commander.

Page U-9, Article VI, Number 8, Audit Committee, Paragraph 4, strike out the entire paragraph and substitute the following:

If the total gross income of the unit exceeds $25,000, the unit financial records shall be reviewed and verified by an independent or certified public accountant. The accountant's statement or a completed financial report form shall be mailed to National Headquarters within 30 days following completion of the audit.

Page U-10, Article VII, Section 7, strike out entire paragraph and substitute the following:

No local unit of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary shall conduct any fund-raising activity without prior written approval of the chapter with which it is affiliated and when required written approval by the DAV state department. If there is no state department, written approval must be obtained from the DAV National Executive Committee.

PROPOSED STANDARD STATE DEPARTMENT BYLAWS

ARTICLE I—STATE ORGANIZATION

Section 1: Administration

This state department is organized with the specific consent and recognition of the parent organization and shall be governed by these standard state Bylaws, supplement to state Bylaws, and the National Constitution and Bylaws of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary.

ARTICLE II—STATE CONVENTION

Section 1: Governing Power

The governing power of this state department shall be the state convention to be held annually at a time and place selected by the state department of the Disabled American Veterans.

The state commander and state adjutant shall provide the call for the annual convention, credentials, and all matters pertaining to the state convention not specifically covered by these standard state department Bylaws and convention rules.

Section 2: Composition

The state convention shall be composed of the elected state officers, the past state commanders, any active resident Past National Commander, the state executive committeewomen, and the delegates or alternates representing chartered units within the state.

Section 3: Delegates

Each elected state officer, each state executive committeewoman, each past state commander, and each active resident Past National Commander shall be entitled to one vote provided that their current membership dues have been received by National Headquarters prior to April 1.

Each unit shall be entitled to one delegate and one alternate for its charter and one delegate and one alternate for each ten senior members or major fraction thereof whose membership dues have been received by National Headquarters prior to the end of each state department's fiscal year.

A delegate or alternate to a state convention shall not be allowed to vote until she is properly registered, dues paid for the convention year, has received the membership obligation, and is not indebted to the organization.

A member shall not cast a vote in the state convention in more than one representative capacity, or be registered as a delegate from more than one unit. In the absence of a unit delegate or state executive committeewoman, her vote shall be cast by her respective alternate.

Each unit delegation shall elect a chairman who votes the total unit strength. When a poll of any delegation is demanded by a delegate entitled to vote, the chairman shall poll the delegation without discussion or debate.

Junior members and state and National at large members do not have the privilege of voting at state convention.

Chartered units must be in good standing with state for their delegates to vote at state convention.

Section 4: State Convention Rules

Convention rules shall govern the procedure of a state convention. Such rules shall be adopted or may be amended at the first business session by a majority vote of the convention delegates.

ARTICLE III—STATE OFFICERS

Section 1: Elected State Officers

The state convention shall elect a state commander, a state senior vice-commander, a state first junior vice-commander, a state chaplain, a state treasurer, and a

state judge advocate. If deemed desirable, a state second junior vice-commander and a state third junior vice-commander, and a state fourth junior vice-commander may be elected and National Headquarters so advised on the supplement to state Bylaws.

Section 2: Appointed State Officers

The state commander, with the approval of the state executive committee, shall appoint a state adjutant, a state sergeant at arms, and may appoint any additional state officers when deemed necessary.

Section 3: Eligibility for State Office

Only members in good standing in a chartered unit for the past 12 months shall be eligible to serve as an elected or appointed state officer.

A member shall not be eligible to election as state commander until she has served as a state officer.

Elected National Officers, the Immediate Past National Commander, and National Executive Committeewomen shall not be eligible to serve simultaneously as state commander.

No member shall hold more than one state office, elective or appointive. This restriction does not apply to position of committee chairmen, committee members, or state executive committeewomen.

ARTICLE IV—DUTIES OF STATE OFFICERS

Section 1: State Commander

The executive power of the state department shall be vested in the state commander.

The state commander, in addition to other duties or powers set forth in these Bylaws, shall be the presiding officer of the Auxiliary state convention, state executive committee meetings, and other state meetings.

She shall appoint the state chairmen of the following committees: Americanism, Community Service, History, Hospital, Junior Activities, Legislation, and Membership. She may also appoint such other chairmen as deemed necessary.

All appointments of the state commander must be approved by the state executive committee and provided for in the state Standing Rules.Section 2: State Senior Vice-Commander The state senior vice-commander shall assume such duties as assigned by the state commander. In the absence of the state commander she shall serve in her stead.

In the absence of the state treasurer or state commander, she shall sign or co-sign state department checks.

Section 3: State Junior Vice-Commander(s)

State junior vice-commander(s) shall be responsible for Auxiliary programs as designated in the state Standing Rules.

Section 4: State Chaplain

The state chaplain shall serve as spiritual leader in a nonsectarian role as described in the Official Ritual of the organization. She shall recite or lead invocations and benedictions where such prayers are offered at the opening and closing of meetings or other events.

Section 5: State Treasurer

The state treasurer shall keep a complete financial record of all monies received, expended, and remitted. All monies must be deposited in the name of the state department.

She shall sign all state department checks and pay out money only on properly prepared warrants/vouchers/check requests as provided in the state budget, by the Finance Committee, or by vote of the state convention or executive committee.

The state treasurer shall give an itemized report of receipts and expenditures at each state executive committee meeting.

She shall submit her records to a state audit committee or to an independent or certified public accountant.

SECTION 6: STATE JUDGE ADVOCATE

The state judge advocate shall be the legal advisor to the state commander. She shall, upon request of the state commander, render her opinion on all questions arising in the state department and on interunit disputes.

The state judge advocate shall render an opinion on questions of parliamentary procedure at all sessions of the state convention, state executive committee meetings, and other state meetings.

All opinions of the state judge advocate shall be advisory only.

SECTION 7: STATE ADJUTANT

The state adjutant shall be the secretary of the state department and shall be responsible for all administrative affairs.

She shall attend and keep a record of all proceedings of the state convention, state executive committee meetings, and other state meetings, but shall have no vote thereat.

The state adjutant shall also assume such other duties as may be assigned by the state commander.

The state adjutant in office at the time of the state convention shall be responsible for submitting to National Headquarters within 30 days after the adjournment of the state convention the following: (a) state financial report or accountant's statement; (b) state budget adopted at convention; (c) state officers report; (d) supplement to state Bylaws; (e) adopted or amended state Standing Rules. Failure to comply with the above will bar the delegate from voting at the following National Convention.

The state adjutant shall also be responsible for sending to National Headquarters: (a) within five days after close of state convention the winning program reports, by categories, judged at state convention; (b) (if filed) a copy of IRS Form 990.

SECTION 8: STATE SERGEANT AT ARMS

The state sergeant at arms shall tend strictly to the preservation of order on the floor of the state convention, state executive committee meetings, and other state meetings. She shall also perform such other duties as may be required of her.

ARTICLE V—TENURE OF OFFICE

SECTION 1: ELECTED STATE OFFICERS

Each elected state officer shall serve until the adjournment of the succeeding state convention or thereafter until her successor is installed.

In the case of the removal of the state commander from office, or of her death, resignation, or inability to discharge the duties of her office, the same shall devolve upon the state senior vice-commander.

In the case of the removal, death, resignation, or inability of both the state commander and senior vice-commander, the duties of the office shall devolve upon the office of the state first junior vice-commander.

In the case of the removal, death, resignation, or inability of the lowest ranking state junior vice-commander, state chaplain, state treasurer, or the state judge advocate to discharge the duties of her office, the state commander shall, with the concurrence by majority vote of the state executive committee, appoint a successor to fill these vacancies.

SECTION 2: STATE APPOINTMENTS

Each state appointee shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing power immediately following approval of such appointment by the state executive committee and provided that no term of office shall exceed that of the appointing power.

ARTICLE VI—STATE COMMITTEES

SECTION 1: STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The state executive committee shall be composed of the state commander, state senior vice-commander, each of the state junior vice-commanders, the immediate past state commander, any active resident Past National Commander if so desired, and one state executive committeewoman or alternate elected by each unit. One-third of all eligible voting members of the state executive committee shall constitute a quorum.

All state executive committeewomen and alternates shall be installed during the state executive committee meeting following the state convention. Those state executive committeewomen and alternates not in attendance at state convention may be installed at another time and place by a proper installing officer.

The term of office of state executive committeewomen and alternates shall be the same as state officers.

The state executive committee shall have full administrative power between state conventions. Business of the state department requiring consideration of the state executive committee between designated or called meetings shall be transacted through the office of the state adjutant by means of mail ballots. A majority of replies to the mail ballots received by the designated date shall constitute the decision of said committee.

The state executive committee shall meet at the call of the state commander. One meeting shall be held prior to each state convention and one following each state convention. Additional meetings may be called, with sufficient notice, by the state commander or upon written request by seven members of the state executive committee.

SECTION 2: STATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

The state finance committee shall consist of at least three and no more than five members elected from various units in the state. The number of members serving on the committee shall be provided in the supplement to state Bylaws. Not more than one member from the same unit shall be elected to serve on the committee. Vacancies shall be filled with an appointment made by the state commander and approved by the state executive committee.

The state finance committee shall supervise and approve all revenue, expenditures, and investments of the state department between state conventions. They shall audit the records of the DAVA-VAVS representative(s) and associate representative(s) annually.

The state finance committee shall prepare a budget which shall be submitted and distributed to the state convention delegates for adoption.

SECTION 3: STATE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The committee on nomination of state officers shall consist of members elected from various units in the state. No two members from the same unit shall be elected to serve on this committee. The state Standing Rules shall provide for the procedures of the committee. The number of members shall be provided in the supplement to state Bylaws.

This committee shall consider and present to the state convention a slate of candidates which it shall nominate as state officers. Nominations may also be made from the floor.

SECTION 4: STATE AUDIT COMMITTEE

Financial records of the state department shall be reviewed and verified by an audit committee appointed by the state commander or by an independent or certified public accountant.

Any state chairman collecting funds for special programs shall be required to give an accounting of all funds handled by her. The books of such special funds shall be audited when the treasurer's books are audited. All funds shall be kept in a bank account in the name of the state department, Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary.

If an audit committee is appointed, the committee shall consist of three members appointed by the state commander, excluding the state commander, state senior vice-commander, state treasurer, state adjutant, and state finance chairman. The committee shall be responsible for reviewing and verifying the state department's financial records at the close of each fiscal year. The financial report form, provided by National Headquarters, shall be completed by the state treasurer or the audit committee and sent to National Headquarters within 30 days following the completion of the audit.

If the total gross income of the state department exceeds $25,000, the state department financial records shall be reviewed and verified by an independent or certified public accountant. The accountant's statement or a completed financial report form shall be mailed to National Headquarters within 30 days following the completion of the audit.

Failure to file annual audits with National Headquarters will bar the state delegate from voting at an ensuing National Convention.

SECTION 5: STATE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Each state committee chairman shall be responsible for her respective program and give a report when called upon by the state commander.

ARTICLE VII—VAVS REPRESENTATIVES AND ASSOCIATE REPRESENTATIVES

SECTION 1: DUTIES

In addition to the duties outlined in the National Auxiliary Manual, the VAVS representative and associate representative if handling VAVS monies, shall be responsible for establishing and maintaining a bank account in the name of the state department, Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary. The state treasurer shall be an authorized signature on the account and sign checks only in the absence of the representative or associate representative.

Accurate records shall be kept by the representative and associate representative showing source of income and amount, funds deposited, and expenditures with receipts attached.

All records of the VAVS representative and associate representative shall be audited by the state finance committee. Said audit shall cover a calendar year (January 1 through December 31).

ARTICLE VIII—FINANCES

SECTION 1: REVENUE

The revenue of the state department shall be derived from sources approved by the state executive committee or as determined by the state convention.

SECTION 2: STATE PER CAPITA.

The state per capita for life members shall be 75 cents.

The state shall determine and provide in the supplement to state Bylaws the state per capita for annual senior and junior members.

SECTION 3: STATE AT-LARGE DUES

The state shall determine and provide in the supplement to state Bylaws the state at-large membership dues for annual senior members.

SECTION 4: STATE MANDATES

The state shall determine and provide in the supplement to state Bylaws for any state mandate. State Standing Rules shall provide details concerning state mandate(s).

SECTION 5: STATE FUND-RAISING PROJECT(S)

All fund-raising projects or fund-raising activities for the state department must be approved by the Disabled American Veterans state department and the DAV National Executive Committee except when the gross receipts will be less than $1,000, provided that advance notice of 30 days to the DAV state department shall be required on all finance-raising projects.

SECTION 6: FIDELITY BOND

The fidelity bond premium for the state department shall be $25. This sum shall be withheld from the state department per capita distribution.

The fidelity bond covers all persons having custody of funds for the state department with a maximum liability coverage of $15,000. In the event the state department has assets other than real property that exceeds $15,000, additional coverage from local sources shall be secured at the state department's expense.

SECTION 7: STATE WARRANT/VOUCHER/CHECK REQUEST AND CHECKS

The state department shall use warrant/ voucher/check requests which shall be signed by the state adjutant or chairman of the state finance committee and cosigned by the state commander.

All state department checks shall be completed and signed by the state treasurer and cosigned by the state commander. In the absence of state treasurer or state commander, the state senior vice-commander shall sign or co-sign the checks.

ARTICLE IX—STATE STANDING RULES

SECTION 1: APPLICATION OF STANDING RULES

The state department shall draw up Standing Rules which are related to the details of the administration and business of the state department.

Standing Rules shall be adopted by a majority vote at the state convention. Such rules remain in effect until amended.

SECTION 2: PROCEDURE

Three copies of the state Standing Rules or amendments adopted at state convention shall be submitted within 30 days after their adoption. The state adjutant at the time of the convention shall be responsible for submitting these copies to National Headquarters for the National Judge Advocate to review for discrepancies prior to their becoming effective.

ARTICLE X—INSTALLING OFFICERS

SECTION 1: INSTALLING OFFICERS

Installing officers shall be members in good standing of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary.

State officers, state executive committeewomen and alternates shall be installed by an Auxiliary Past National Commander, an elected National Officer, a National Adjutant, an Assistant National Adjutant, a National Executive Committeewoman, or a past state commander.

SECTION 2: SELECTING INSTALLING OFFICER

The incoming state commander selects the installing officer of her choice, who must be one of the above-mentioned officers.

The Auxiliary Ritual must be used for installations.

ARTICLE XI—JEWELRY AND CAPS

SECTION 1: PAST COMMANDER'S PIN

A state commander shall serve more than nine months of a yearly term in order to be eligible to wear a past commander's pin.

The official state department pin is set with a blue sapphire and has a past commander's bar.

All official jewelry must be purchased through the Auxiliary National Headquarters.

SECTION 2: CAPS

State departments shall determine and provide in their Standing Rules regulations governing the wearing of DAV Auxiliary caps.

ARTICLE XII—AMENDMENTS OF BYLAWS

SECTION 1:

These Bylaws may be amended at any National Convention by a vote of two-thirds of the total accredited delegates assembled, provided that the proposed amendments shall have been read to the convention at a business session before the vote thereon.

The standard state Bylaws, when adopted at National Convention, will become effective at each state's 1991 convention.

State Standing Rules shall be submitted and adopted at each state's 1991 convention.

Commander, that completes the reading. And if I may, I want to thank the committee who served with us. They served very well, asked some very constructive questions, and we do appreciate it. And if I mispronounce anyone's name, please blame Maria! She types it right, I just could not pronounce it properly!

From District #1 we have Jackie Fossiano from Massachusetts. District #2, Stella Gnatek from New York. District #3, Ann Young from New Hampshire. District #4, Marie Robinson, New Jersey. District #5, Jeanne Zwick from Pennsylvania. District #6, Neva Langston, Virginia. District #7, Lucille McCarthy, Florida. District #8, Opal Alexander from Tennessee. District #9, Judy Tolar from North Carolina. District #10, Ruth Ike from Michigan. District #11, Mary Kabler from Ohio. District #12, Barbara Przybylski—did I get as close as Maria?—from Wisconsin. District #13, Linda Riley from Indiana. District #14, Miriam Kiser from Minnesota. District #15, Elizabeth Diestler from Iowa—Idaho; or is it Iowa, IA?—Iowa. District #16, Vicki Oneal from California. District #17, Erlinda Ortiz from New Mexico. District #18, Evelynne Dunn from Nevada. District #19, Gisele Dunn from Washington. District #20, Hazel Neill from Texas. District #21, Loneita Shoemaker from Arkansas. And our advisor was Lelia McGinnis, the National Judge Advocate. Thank you. [Applause.]

Commander ALLRED. Thank you, Loneita. That's a tough committee to serve on. You heard all the amendments that they had to go through. And, Loneita, you did a very good job of reading all these amendments up here.

Ms. LUCILLE McCARTHY. Madam Commander.

Commander ALLRED. Yes.

Ms. McCARTHY. Lucille McCarthy. May we please meet with the Constitution and Bylaws Committee outside the room immediately?

Commander ALLRED. Yes. Would the members of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee please go outside of the meeting room immediately. Also the Mae Holmes Committee, would you please go outside of the meeting room.

We're now going to have a couple of announcements and then we're going to let you do a little something. Hold on.

Adjutant TEDROW. Okay. All right, Heart of America, they told me to announce this this morning and announce it this afternoon. The Heart of America rally will be on Tuesday, which is today, July 31st, at 4:30, and it will be in Suite 14430. That's the Heart of America.

Approximately at 11:00 o'clock today we will recess and every district will hold a caucus and you can go over the Constitution and Bylaws. There will be printed Constitution and Bylaws this afternoon for everyone here.

Would Unit 11 of Mississippi and the Mississippi department officers and anyone who has been a department officer that is at this convention and also Past National Commander Eva Rodgers, meet with us this afternoon as soon as the meeting is over. Also we would like the officers of the Department of South Carolina to meet down front here as soon as the afternoon session is over.

And I will remind you of that this afternoon. But that's all the announcements I have right now.

[Short break.]

Commander **Allred**. The convention is now called back to order. Your silence is required. We're going to the presentation of awards. We did try something last year, it was a success, again we're going to do it.

For pictures, if there's pictures to be taken after the presentations are made the National chairmen who served as advisors, the committee convention chairmen, will go over in front of the American Flags. If you would like pictures, they will be taken over there.

I will call on the National Committee chairman who served as advisor and the convention committee chairman to come forward. Both will come up for presentations. Our first is Americanism. The National chairman and advisor is Bonnie Newell; the convention committee chairman is Joan Cook.

Ms. **Joan Cook**. National Commander Shelia, National Adjutant, National Officers, Past National Commanders, delegates and guests of this 68th National Auxiliary Convention:

The National Americanism Convention Committee met in the San Simeon Room at 2:00 p.m. July 30, 1990. Our advisor was Bonnie Newell. Renee Jones was appointed secretary. The following units were judged to be the best in their category for the National Americanism Awards:

Group 1, 10 to 50 members, Alton Unit #3, Illinois. [Applause.]

Group 2, 51 to 100 members, Clarence Tom Tinsley Western Unit #24, Minnesota. [Applause.]

Group 3, 101 to 200 members, Sonoma County Unit #48, California. [Applause.]

Group 4, 201 members or over, Tri-City Unit #8, Arizona. [Applause.]

The committee submitted the following recommendations:

It was suggested that more programs be developed to educate the public on patriotism.

Also, that a point system be developed in order to help the judges. We have new members each year, and a point system possibly would make a better guide for them to work with.

And please stress back in your units that the reports should be written legibly.

The Convention Committee on Americanism consisted of the following members:

District #1, Nicky Murray, Massachusetts #72. District #3, Nancy Dorey, Vermont Unit #18. District #4, Betty Meredith, Delaware Unit #1. District #5, Mildred Furlong, Pennsylvania Unit #77. District #6, Nilda Mejias, Puerto Rico Unit #1. District #7, Joan Cook, Florida Unit #93. District #8, Noma Henley, Alabama Unit #94. District #9, Renee Jones, North Carolina Unit #18. District #10, Linda Griffin, Maine Unit #12. District #11, Farris Moseley, Ohio Unit #57. District #12, Rose Wells, Illinois Unit #18. District #13, Joanne Laws, Kentucky Unit #37. District #14, Catena Piti, South Dakota Unit #7. District #15, Bonita Mitchell, Missouri Unit #2. District #16, Connie Salisbury, California Unit #94. District #17, Myrtle Shakespeare, Utah Unit #1. District #18, Pat Heun, Arizona Unit #1. District #19, Cay

Bates, Washington Unit #41. District #20, Patricia White, Texas Unit #89. District #21, Julia D. Alexander, Oklahoma Unit #60. Advisor, Bonita Newell; chairman, Joan Cook.

I'd like to thank the committee. They were very fair and they worked hard and reviewed and discussed all the selections and discussed why they made their decisions, so it was done very fairly. Thank you. [Applause.]

10 to 50 members, Alton Unit #3, Illinois. [Applause.]

Third Junior Vice-Commander NEWELL. It gives me great pleasure to allow this to be received by your Auxiliary. You've earned every bit of it. It was a beautiful report. Thank you so much. [Applause.]

Ms. ELVA JOHNSON. I'm Elva Johnson, department adjutant for Illinois. In the absence of our commander, Ruth Woods, who is in the Nominating Committee, it gives me great pleasure to accept this award for Alton #3. [Applause.]

Ms. COOK. On units 51 to 100 I have a correction to make. It is the Unit Clarence Tom Tinsley, Unit #24, but it's not Minnesota, it's North Dakota. We had MN down here. [Applause.]

Third Junior Vice-Commander NEWELL. Congratulations to your Auxiliary. It was a pleasure to read your report.

MEMBER. Well, thank you. On behalf of Unit #25 of Valley City, North Dakota, I would like to thank you for this great award. Thank you. [Applause.]

Ms. COOK. Group 3, 100 to 200 members, Sonoma County Unit #48, California. [Applause.]

Third Junior Vice-Commander NEWELL. I congratulate you for receiving this award and I know you'll all be happy to receive it.

Ms. GLADYS BARNES. Thank you. I'm Gladys Barnes, commander of #48. I'm very nervous. I want to thank you very, very much. [Applause.]

Ms. COOK. Group 4, 201 members or over, Tri-City Unit #8, Arizona. [Applause.]

Third Junior Vice-Commander NEWELL. Again it gives me great pleasure to allow you to receive this award. You've earned it. It was a beautiful report also, and you show your Americanism spirit in this report. Thank you so much. [Applause.]

Ms. KATHY NORTHRUP. Thank you very much. I'm Kathy Northrup, Unit #8 commander. This award is very special to us. We worked real hard. I was able to sit in another award just watching and all the ladies that turned in their reports, they were fantastic. I just can't believe we won. Thank you again. [Applause.]

Commander ALLRED. To speed this up a little bit I'm going to ask the convention committee chairmen, when you call out the winners, call out the name of the unit if you have it, the unit number and the state, and let them come on down front and then we'll tell the category when we present the award. That will shorten it up.

Next, Community Service Program National Chairman and Advisor Barbara Hicks, the convention committee chairman is Darlene—how do you say that, Darlene?—Urioste, is that close enough? Man, with a southern accent I might have done all right with that! Please come forward.

Ms. Darlene Urioste. National Commander, Shelia, National Adjutant Maria, National Officers, Past National Commanders, delegates and guests of the 68th National Auxiliary Convention:

The National Community Service Convention Committee met in the Palos Verdes Meeting Room at 2:00 p.m. on July 30, 1990. Our advisor was Barbara Hicks and our secretary was Phyllis Novak.

The following units were judged to be the best in their category for the National Community Service Awards: Unit 19, Milbank, South Dakota [applause]; Unit 122, Grass Valley, California [applause]; Unit 41, Trenton, New Jersey [applause]; Unit 8, Mesa, Arizona. [Applause.]

The committee submitted the following recommendations:

Anything over a thousand dollars must be itemized. Community service does not include work involving Americanism or done by the chaplain or VA hospital work or any DAVA work or chaplain, VA hospital work or DAVA work. We advise that you please purchase the DAVA Manual which shows you the way to follow to fill out all your reports.

I want to thank all the ladies from each of these districts:

District 1, Louise Barrett; District 2, Phyllis Novak; District 3, Marilyn Duvosko; District 4, Arline Phillips; District 5, Shirley Tester; District 6, Mildred Velazquez; District 7, Hernana Lane; District 8, Lucy Horn; District 9, Elizabeth Gutch;

District 10, Shirley Page; District 11, Maxine McConnis; District 12, Sherri Numbers; District 13, Carolyn Vogel; District 14, Lucy Bradbury; District 15, Beverly Payne; District 16, Maureen Daniels; District 17, Darlene Urioste; District 18, Carol Kolsik; District 19, Minnie Carbonet; District 20, Ann Crowell; and District 21, Lillian Stevenson. And our advisor, Barbara Hicks. Thank you. [Applause.]

From Group 1, from 10 to 50 members, was Unit 19, Milbank, South Dakota. [Applause.]

Fourth Junior Vice-Commander Hicks. It gives me a great deal of pleasure to present you with your award. Your report was outstanding. And I'm sure your Auxiliary will be very honored to have you bring this back to them.

Ms. Shirley Joachim. Thank you very much and thanks to all the committee. And it has been a challenge and a joy. My name is Shirley Joachim and our town is Milbank, South Dakota. Thank you. [Applause.]

Ms. Urioste. On Group 2, from 51 to 100 members, Unit 122, Grass Valley, California. [Applause.]

Fourth Junior Vice-Commander Hicks. It again gives me a great deal of pleasure to present this award to you for all your outstanding work, and I'm sure your Auxiliary will be very pleased to have this also.

Ms. Anna Dougherty. As commander of California for the next year I gratefully accept this for Grass Valley. And I'll be giving this to them right away. And they will be happy to receive it, but no happier than I am to accept it. Thank you. [Applause.] I'm Anna Dougherty from Sonoma County Unit 48 and commander 1990–91 for California. [Applause.]

Ms. Urioste. On Group 3, 101 to 200 members, Unit 41, Trenton, New Jersey. [Applause.]

Fourth Junior Vice-Commander **Hicks**. It gives me a great deal of pleasure to present this to you also. You had an outstanding report and I'm sure your Auxiliary will be honored to have this.

Ms. **Sophia Mate**. My name is Sophia Mate. I'm the adjutant of Unit 41 and past commander there. On behalf of the Auxiliary, they will be very happy to receive this award. I thank you. They worked very hard. [Applause.]

Ms. **Urioste**. Group 4, 201 members and over, Unit 8, Mesa, Arizona. [Applause.]

Fourth Junior Vice-Commander **Hicks**. It's a pleasure to give you a second award. I'm sure your report was outstanding, as all the others were, and our committee did work very, very hard choosing these awards. I'm sure your Auxiliary will be honored to receive this also.

Ms. **Kathy Northrup**. Thank you again. I accept this for Tri-City 8, Mesa, Arizona, Chandler, and Tempe. I was so nervous last time my hair stood straight up. I got it down, and I'd like to do—this is our adjutant—every lady contributed, but certainly Honor sure did her part, too. Thank you so much. [Applause.]

The lady with her hair sticking up is Kathy Northrup from Mesa, Arizona. Thank you. [Applause.]

Commander **Allred**. Now we're going to have the department history book award. The National Chairman and Advisor is Jane Troutman, the convention committee chairman is Betty Workman.

Ms. **Betty Workman**. National Commander Shelia, National Adjutant, National Officers, Past National Commanders, delegates and guests of this 69th National Auxiliary Convention:

The National Department History Book Convention Committee met in the Huntington Room at 2:00 p.m. on 7/30/1990. Our advisor was Jane Troutman; Juanita Fraser graciously volunteered as secretary.

We had one book with 100 percent. The National Department History Book Award goes to the Department of Michigan. [Applause.]

We have the following recommendations:

We had one book with 99½ points. We had another book with 99 points. So recommendation by the committee, a certificate of honorable mention to be given for second and third place on the history book.

Section 5 in membership, pictures depicting membership drive should come directly after "Was there a membership drive or contact?"

Section 7 on VAVS, honored guests should be named and their title given under their picture.

Section 12, invitations not to be put in book if function was not attended by a representative of department. If attended, then the invitation should be accompanied with a picture.

I would like to thank my committee: Grace Walls from District 1; Lillian Tanguay, District 3; Bernice Albanese, District 4; Clara Gauer, District 6; Dolores Black, District 7; Nita Fraser, District 8; Judy Davis, District 9; Virginia Mecher, District 10; Martha Fisher, District 11; Elaine Morris, District 12; Kathryn Kern, District 14; Doris Rickert, District 15; Gladys Monji, District 16; Judy Lovell, District 17; Iris Brzezinski, District 18; Suzan Fairbanks, District

19; Gloria Magill, District 20; Lois Holley, District 21. And a big "thank you" to our advisor, Jane Troutman; she was fantastic. [Applause.]

Ms. **Jane Troutman**. To the department commander of Michigan, to Susan, I would love to present this award for department history. It was a beautiful book, as all of them were, but Michigan's Carol Gray did a fantastic job. [Applause.]

Member. I want to thank all the members of the committee, and especially Carol Gray. She did do a beautiful job. I kept sending her boxes and boxes of pictures with nothing on the back showing what it was, I didn't have time to write them on there, and somehow she sorted through them all. I guess—she won't let me see it—I guess she made me a beautiful book! But really, I do thank you so much. And on behalf of the Department of Michigan I'm very, very pleased and honored to accept this. Thank you. [Applause.]

Commander **Allred**. Thank you. And congratulations to all the winners. I know you worked real hard and you deserve these awards.

What we are going to do right now is we're going to have a recess until—we're going to have the drawings first—we're going to have a recess till 1:00 o'clock. But first we're going to have drawings right after the recess. The committee chairmen, convention chairmen, please come down in the front row, be ready to go into the awards.

Remember, after the drawings the districts will caucus under the district signs. Discussion will be held about the Constitution and Bylaws from your representative from your district.

I hereby call the convention in recess, to reconvene at 1:00 o'clock p.m. Convention Chairman Bea Vieira, will you come forward with the door prize tickets.

[Whereupon the meeting recessed at 10:52 o'clock a.m.]

TUESDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

July 31, 1990

The Tuesday afternoon session of the 1990 National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary convened in the Pacific Ballroom of the Anaheim Hilton Hotel, Anaheim, California, July 31, 1990, and was called to order at 1:00 o'clock p.m. by Commander Shelia C. Allred.

Commander **Shelia C. Allred**. I hereby call the afternoon session of the National Convention to order. Your silence is required for the remainder of the presentation of awards.

We will now have the hospital award. National Chairman and Advisor Vernice Eunice, the convention committee chairman is Mary Lou Weber. Would you please come forward? [Applause.] Don't forget to look alive!

Ms. **Mary Lou Weber**. Good afternoon. National Commander Shelia, National Adjutant, National Officers, Past National Commanders, delegates and guests of this 68th National Auxiliary Convention:

This is the National Non-VA Hospital Committee report. The National Non-VA Hospital Convention Committee met in the

Carmel Room at 2:00 o'clock on July 30,1990. Our advisor was Vernice Eunice; and Marie Boyd was our elected secretary.

The following units were judged to be the best in their categories for the National VA Hospital Awards:

Group 1, Gilbert Unit #33, Gilbert, Arizona. [Applause.]

Group 2, Pearl Harbor Unit 16, Junction City, Kansas. [Applause.]

Group 3, James D. Raider 108, Cape Coral, Florida. [Applause.]

Group 4, Playground Unit 72, Fort Walton Beach, Florida. [Applause.]

The committee submitted the following recommendations:

On Line 4 list on the back of the sheet the number of volunteers, hours, and miles for each function.

Number 2, on Line 6 appropriate space should be left for reporting the actual cost.

The ladies on my committee were: District 1, Dorothy Young; District 2, Katherine Barletta; District 3, Grace Boland; District 4, Elsie Sandblaw; District 5, Virginia Hartman; District 6, Evelyn Dorsey; District 7, Georgette Warburton; District 8, Inez Sims; District 9, Martha McGow; District 10, Connie Timmerman; District 11, Grace Nagel; District 12, Shaaron Wood; District 13, Mary Patterson; District 15, Olwyn Picking; District 16, Donna Stinnett; District 17, Betty Jones; District 18, Kay Carpenito; District 19, Patricia Pancake; District 20, Marie Boyd; District 21, Phyllis Netter. I would like to thank the girls for a job really well done and thank our advisor, Vernice. [Applause.]

Group 1, 10 to 50 members, Gilbert Unit 33, Gilbert, Arizona. [Applause.]

Ms. VERNICE EUNICE. It gives me great pleasure to present this award to you. And they did an outstanding job. [Applause.]

MEMBER. As commander of the Department of Arizona I'm most pleased to take this reward back to the girls from 33. I thought one of them would be here to accept it, but I'm glad to accept it for them. Thank you. [Applause.]

Ms. WEBER. Group 2, 51 to 100 members, Pearl Harbor Unit 16, Junction City, Kansas. [Applause.]

Ms. EUNICE. It gives me great pleasure to present this award to you. And I know these ladies really worked to get this award, too. Thank you. [Applause.]

MEMBER. I want to thank you very much on behalf of Pearl Harbor 16 of Kansas. We did work very hard. And I know the girls will be just as happy as I am to receive this. Thank you. [Applause.]

Ms. WEBER. Group 3, 101 to 200 members, James D. Raider 108, Cape Coral, Florida. [Applause.]

Ms. EUNICE. I'm really happy to present this award. These ladies really put in some hours, some miles, and a lot of hard work for this award. Thank you so much. [Applause.]

MEMBER. Thank you. As department commander of Florida I'm happy to accept this report for 108, and I know they'll be overjoyed when they receive it. Thank you. [Applause.]

Ms. WEBER. Group 4, 201 members or over, Playground Unit 72, Fort Walton Beach, Florida. [Applause.]

Ms. **Eunice**. It gives me extreme pleasure to present this award to Playground 72 in Fort Walton Beach, Florida. I feel like Fort Walton Beach is my second home, so it really delights me to present this award to them. And they did an extra outstanding job for this award. Thank you. [Applause.]

Member. On behalf of Playground 72 Florida I'm really very happy to receive this award for my unit. Thank you. [Applause.]

Commander **Allred**. We will now call on Junior Activities National Chairman and Advisor Ruth Nowlin; convention chairman, Debi Huddleston. [Applause.]

Ms. **Debi Huddleston**. National Commander Shelia, National Adjutant, National Officers, Past National Commanders, delegates and guests to the 68th National Auxiliary Convention:

The National Junior Activities Convention Committee met in the Redondo Room at 2:00 p.m.

July 30, 1990. Our advisor was Ruthie Nowlin; our secretary was Judy M. Steinhouse, she was appointed.

Group 1 of our categories for the National Junior Activities Award goes to Clarence Tom Lindley Unit 24, Valley City, North Dakota. [Applause.]

Group 2 goes to Andy Nomlin of Grand Forks Unit #2, North Dakota. [Applause.]

Group 3 goes to Phoenix 1 of Phoenix, Arizona. [Applause.]

Our junior activities book goes to Phoenix 1 of Phoenix, Arizona. [Applause.]

Our National Miss Teen-Age age 13 to 17 goes to Kimberly Marie Mate of Phoenix 1, Phoenix, Arizona. [Applause.]

And our National Junior Miss age 7 to 12 goes to Jennifer Daniels from Creek County #9, Sapulpa, Oklahoma. [Applause.]

The committee submits the following recommendation: On our Junior Miss candidate form, that you read and follow the instructions on the form. Some of them were submitted without photos, some of them were submitted without resumes from the girls. So this is what we ask.

The women that served on our committee were: From District 1, Estelle Mike; District 2, Dorothy Bednarczyk; District 3, Ann Grina; District 4, Sandra Schulman; District 5, Marie Cummings; District 6, Christina Tharp; District 7, Ruth Henderson; District 8, Susan Henry; District 9, Tara Allred; District 10, Marjorie Timmerman; District 11, Judy Uetterling; District 12, Carol Lawrence; District 13, Linda Napier; District 14, Judy Steinhouse; District 15, Sadie Zinger; District 16, Gladys Barnes; District 17, Florence Berguson; District 18, Sally Dannenberg; District 19, Kathy Clampitt; District 20, Jewelene Jones; District 21, Debi Huddleston. And our advisor was Ruthie Nowlin. [Applause.]

From Group 1, which is 10 to 50 members, Clarence Tom Lindley Unit 24, Valley City, North Dakota. [Applause.]

Ms. **Ruth Nowlin**. This is a group of 40 girls and the work they did is outstanding. And I'm very proud to present this award to you on behalf of National. [Applause.]

Member. Thank you. As our junior girls chairman I am really happy to get this award. [Applause.]

Ms. **Huddleston**. Group 2, 51 to 100 members, Andy Nomlin from Grand Forks Unit #2, North Dakota. [Applause.]

Ms. **Nowlin**. It gives me great pleasure to present this award to you to take home to the girls. And thank you for supporting them and using them.

Ms. **Judy Steinhouse**. I'm Judy Steinhouse, past state commander of the State of North Dakota. On behalf of Grand Forks Unit #2 I accept this plaque for the National Junior Activities Award with very much pleasure. Thank you. [Applause.]

Ms. **Huddleston**. Group 3, 101 to 200 members, Phoenix 1, Phoenix, Arizona. [Applause.]

Ms. **Nowlin**. It's a great honor to present this award to you to take home to the girls. We appreciate your dedication.

Member. I sure do thank you. My activities chairman is not here. I was commander last year, so I'll accept it. [Applause.]

Ms. **Huddleston**. The junior activities book goes to Phoenix 1, Phoenix, Arizona. [Applause.]

Member. Thanks again, everybody. [Applause.]

Ms. **Huddleston**. Our National Miss Teen Age 13 to 17 years of age goes to Kimberly Marie Mate from Phoenix 1, Phoenix, Arizona. [Applause.]

Member. She's one of our good old girls, so I'm pleased to take it to her. Thank you. [Applause.]

Ms. **Nowlin**. Her sister won last year as Junior Miss. So apparently the family knows how to keep it in the family and use it. [Applause.]

Ms. **Huddleston**. And our National Junior Miss 7 to 12 years of age goes to Jennifer Daniels from Sapulpa, Oklahoma. [Applause.]

Ms. **Nowlin**. It's an honor to give this to you to take to her. It's something she can cherish for the rest of her life and something that will never leave her as an accomplishment.

Ms. **Elaine Mooney**. Well, thank you very much. I'm Elaine Mooney from the Department of Oklahoma. On behalf of Jennifer I'm very happy to accept this for her. Thank you. [Applause.]

Commander **Allred**. Congratulations to all those winners. Next we will have legislation. National Chairman and Advisor, Barbara Maldet; National Convention Committee Chairman, Nancy Dunday.

Ms. **Nancy Dunday**. Good afternoon, ladies. National Commander, National Adjutant, National Officers, Past National Commanders, delegates and guests of this 69th National Auxiliary Convention.

Girls, if you look at your badge, it does say "69"—oh, I'm sorry, it's the gentlemen's, they're a year older than we are. The Auxiliary is 68.

The National Legislative Convention Committee met in the Malibu Room at 2:00 p.m. July 30, 1990. Our advisor was Barbara Maldet and our secretary was Barbara Chumley. And the awards were:

10 to 50, Hanover Township #177, Silver Creek, New York. [Applause.]

Group Number 2 was 51 to 100 members, Cordele #3, Cordele, Georgia. [Applause.] Now that's what she wants!

Number 3, 101 to 200 members, Joseph McNearney #41, Trenton, New Jersey. [Applause.]

201 members and over, Grand Forks #2, Grand Forks, North Dakota. [Applause.] There you go!

The committee made a couple of recommendations:

All of the legislative reports were good reports but some of the things that are going on the legislative reports do not refer to veterans' bills and it should not be on the report, it should go on another report.

And in the front when you're writing and you're stating what you're writing on, they would like a little more clarification on what you're putting on in the front. Because they don't understand what you're saying as far as—like one bill that you're writing on but it's not for our veteran or for the veteran's family.

This is what they want. They want you to clarify this a little bit more. They don't understand what you're saying. These girls are working hard, but I wouldn't understand some of the things that were written there either.

And the other one was a little more neatness. It's hard to read these forms.

This committee that I worked with was the biggest pleasure I've had for this convention. My advisor was one of the best cotton-picking advisors I've ever had, and my secretary was a terrific lady.

Every lady on this committee put their all to it. I can't say anything bad about any one of them. They are beautiful women. And, Commander and Maria, I can pronounce Barbara Przybylski, but I'm not saying I'm going to pronounce all these right!

The 1st District is Evelyn LeBlanc; 3rd District is Laura Trombley; 4th District is Florence Kehne; 5th District is Sadie Turner; 6th District is Alice Cox; 7th District is Ann Rice; 8th District is Gertrude Duplechain; 9th District, Emma Hughes; 10th District, Heidi Flack; 11th District, Elizabeth Thomas; 12th District, myself; 13th District, Barbara Chumley; 14th, Hulda Olson; 15th, Judy McLaskey; 16th, Isabel Provensal; 17th, Gertrude Day; 18th, Joanne Molen; 19th, Kathy Freeman; 20th, Florence Fowler; 21st, Carolyn Cox.

Now the one 10 to 50, Hanover Township #177, Silver Creek, New York. [Applause.]

Second Junior Vice-Commander MALDET. It is a great pleasure for me to present this award to you for your unit. Take it back with great pride because it takes a lot of work to get this.

Ms. DOROTHY BEDNARCZYK. Thank you. I'm accepting this award for this unit. I'm the department adjutant. It will give me great pleasure to present it to them. My name is Dorothy Bednarczyk. [Applause.]

Ms. DUNDAY. Number 2 is Cordele #3, Cordele, Georgia. [Applause.]

Second Junior Vice-Commander MALDET. Well, we sure got some action out of this, didn't we? It's with great pleasure that I present this legislative award that's so vital to our veterans.

Ms. FRIEDA LYNCH. Thank you so much. It is a great pleasure to accept this award on behalf of Unit 3, Cordele, Georgia. They are small and not the youngest, but they are the busiest. Thank you. My name is Frieda Lynch, department commander. [Applause.]

Ms. DUNDAY. Number 3, Joseph McNearney #41, Trenton, New Jersey. [Applause.]

Second Junior Vice-Commander **MALDET**. Barbara Rusnak, this gives me great pleasure to present this legislative award to my sister state in New Jersey and to a state that I know does such a great job in legislation.

Ms. **BARBARA RUSNAK**. Thank you. As she said, I'm Barbara Rusnak. I'm the newly elected NEC for District 4. I'm accepting this on behalf of our commander, Alberta Kelhoff, who couldn't be here, and I'm accepting it because I'm our legislative chairman for our unit.

We in Unit 41 feel that the legislative program is one of the lifebloods of our organization and it needs all of our support. So I'm thrilled to death that we've gotten this award, because as a unit we—and that's that magic word "we," not "I" but "we"—we have worked hard. Thank you ladies. [Applause.]

Ms. **DUNDAY**. 201 members and over, Grand Forks #2, Grand Forks, North Dakota. [Applause.]

Second Junior Vice-Commander **MALDET**. Isn't this great, to have so many awards go to North Dakota! It's a great pleasure for me to present this legislative award to you.

Ms. **JUDY STEINHOUSE**. Thank you. Hi again. I was just here. I'm Judy Steinhouse. I am a past department commander from the great state of North Dakota and I'm also the newly elected 14th District NEC. On behalf of the gals in Grand Forks I accept this with a lot of pride, and I know that they'll be very, very happy about this. Thank you so much. [Applause.]

Second Junior Vice-Commander **MALDET**. I want to tell you what a pleasure it was to work with Nancy—I called her Carol all day! But it was a pleasure to work with this whole committee. They did an excellent job. And Nancy is just a joy. And Myrtice stole my squeeze thing, see; that's mine.

I don't know if any of you have seen "Pretty Woman," but at one point in the movie she does this—and this is for all my committee and everybody who won—she goes [indicating]. Okay, that's for them! [Applause.]

Commander **ALLRED**. Congratulations to all the winners. Our next program is membership. National Chairman and Advisor, Claudia Roy; convention committee chairman, Miriam Daley. [Applause.]

Ms. **MIRIAM DALEY**. National Membership Committee convention report. National Commander, National Adjutant, National Officers, Past National Commanders, delegates and guests of this 68th National Auxiliary Convention:

The National Membership Convention Committee met in the Manhattan Room at 2:00 p.m. on July 30, 1990. Our advisor was Claudia Roy. Boy is she smart. Our secretary was Zona Schalow, the appointed secretary.

I feel like I have the Emmy Awards in my hand. It's so exciting. The only word missing is "Where's the envelope?"

Our first winner is Kentucky, Paintsville #136, with an increase of 19. [Applause.]

Group 2, South Carolina, Darlington County #72, with an increase of 27. [Applause.]

Group 3, Ohio, West Air 34, with a plus of 33. [Applause.]

Group 4, Ohio, the Buddy number of 43, with a plus of 58. [Applause.]

New unit with most new members, we have a tie. Georgia #5 [Applause.] and my favorite, Massachusetts 120. [Applause.]

On the departments, the largest percentage, only five departments met their membership quota. And we would like to read them because we think they should be mentioned. They can't all receive awards. Those departments making their quotas: Florida, Massachusetts, Nebraska, North Dakota, and Wisconsin. [Applause.]

The department with the largest percentage increase is North Dakota, with 101.71. [Applause.] We might point out these five departments were extremely close, but North Dakota won.

Department with the largest numerical increase is Florida, with 139 new members. [Applause.]

The committee recommends in the future please have the totals of the four membership groups printed out by the computer. It would certainly save a lot of time, confusion, and our eyesight.

The committee that served with us—when I call your name will you please stand and wave to everyone so we can all see who you were, you served so well.

District #2, Melania Hartloff, Sue; District 3, Lois Cordaro; District 4, Louise Jacklin; District 5, Carol McNeal; District 6, Ruth White; District 7, Grace McLaughlin; District 8, Larien Newcomb; #9, Linda Barbee; #10, Betty Hoag; #11, Ailsa Thomas; #12, Zona Schalow; 13, Mildred Brown; 14, Karlette Rizzi; 15, Goldie Smith; 16, Esther Lofton; 17, Sharon Martinez; 18, Ellie Shuman; 19, Evelyn Thompson; #20, Charline Nowlin; #21, Elaine Mooney. Thank you all, ladies. You worked very hard. And Claudia was an excellent advisor. [Applause.]

Group 1, 10 to 50, Kentucky, Paintsville #136. [Applause.]

First Junior Vice-Commander ROY. Congratulations. And we're working on the building of that Foundation.

Ms. LINDA NAPIER. Thank you very much. I am Linda Napier, department commander from the Commonwealth of Kentucky. I am very pleased and very happy to take this back to Paintsville. And we want to work real hard this year from Kentucky to get our quota. We're trying very hard by Christmas. That will be my Christmas gift. [Applause.]

Ms. DALEY. 51 to 100 members, South Carolina, Darlington County #72. [Applause.]

First Junior Vice-Commander ROY. It's indeed an honor for me to present you with this plaque. And my congratulations and thanks.

Ms. MARY STROHM. Thank you very much. My name is Mary Strohm. I'm the new commander of the Department of South Carolina. We did miss our quota by 14 members. We thought we had it made but we didn't. But Darlington got a new commander in there and she has worked hard. And it's a great honor to take this back to Darlington County. Thank you very much. [Applause.]

Ms. DALEY. 101 to 200, Ohio, West Air 34. [Applause.]

First Junior Vice-Commander ROY. It's indeed an honor for me to present you with this plaque. And thanks to you and your group for building our Foundation some more.

Ms. **Florence McGovern**. Florence McGovern, immediate past department commander of Ohio. I am indeed honored to pick this up. And I'll gladly see to it that gets to the rightful owners. [Applause.]

Ms. **Daley**. 201 members and over, Ohio, the Buddy #43. [Applause.]

First Junior Vice-Commander **Roy**. Oh, look who's back. Congratulations.

Member. And with this, I'll see to it they get it. Thank you. [Applause.]

Ms. **Daley**. New unit most members. First, Georgia #5. [Applause.]

First Junior Vice-Commander **Roy**. As you heard the chairman announce, there is a tie in this category. So we're going to have to send one of these units an award. But my congratulations to you. That's a wonderful membership to start. Just keep at it.

Ms. **Frieda Lynch**. Thank you so much. Frieda Lynch, department commander of Georgia. On behalf of Unit 5, they are new but they are strong. And you have watched them coming up. [Applause.]

Ms. **Daley**. And Massachusetts 120. And both these units started out with 32 members.

First Junior Vice-Commander **Roy**. Congratulations. And I've said something about a neighboring state, and Mass is a neighboring state to us. And my sincere congratulations to you. I'm thrilled to present this to you.

Ms. **Jackie Fossiano**. Thank you very much. I'm the commander of Massachusetts and very proud to receive this. And I'll be sure that the rightful owners get it. Thank you very much. [Applause.] My name is Jackie Fossiano.

Ms. **Daley**. Largest increase department, North Dakota. [Applause.]

Ms. **Kathryn Kern**. I do want to take this opportunity to thank each and every member from the State of North Dakota. I know you out there promised your National Commander everything in the world if she'd come and see you.

Well, we didn't count on the weather so good, but we did have our quota for her arrival. We're very proud of that. I'm Kathryn Kern, past department commander for the Department of North Dakota. [Applause.]

Ms. **Daley**. Largest numerical increase, Florida. [Applause.]

First Junior Vice-Commander **Roy**. While the representative from Florida is on her way up, would Carol Howard, Gertrude Tidwell, Linda Barbee, please come up?

Oh, it's with a great deal of pleasure that I present this plaque to you. My sincerest congratulations. And keep up the good work.

Ms. **Fran Fabregas**. Thank you, Florida, thank you, Lucille McCarthy, and thank you for all the help I had. Thank you. I'm Fran Fabregas, first junior vice of the Department of Florida. [Applause.]

Ms. **Joan Cook**. Joan Cook, department commander of Florida. I'd like to thank the membership chairman. She never left her telephone the last two months! Thank you. [Applause.]

First Junior Vice-Commander Roy. We have some special membership awards to give. Carol Howard from Ohio, Unit #43, 42 new members. [Applause.]

Fourth Junior Vice-Commander Hicks. It's with a great deal of pleasure that I accept this award. And I certainly will see that Carol gets it. Finley is a very active unit and they do a lot of hard work. Thank you on her behalf. [Applause.]

First Junior Vice-Commander Roy. And the second award is to Gertrude Tidwell, Oklahoma Unit 60, 27 new members. [Applause.] It's with a great deal of pleasure that I present this.

Ms. Elaine Mooney. Thank you very much on behalf of Gertrude Tidwell. This is Elaine Mooney accepting for her. I know she'll be thrilled to death. Thank you very much. [Applause.]

First Junior Vice-Commander Roy. And the special recruiter recognition goes to Carol Howard, Ohio Unit 43. [Applause.]

Fourth Junior Vice-Commander Hicks. It is again a great deal of pleasure. And Carol is a newly appointed district commander, so I'm sure she'll even work harder for this. Thank you. [Applause.]

First Junior Vice-Commander Roy. Thank you, Barb, for being so gracious and accepting these on her behalf. And Linda Barbee, North Carolina Unit 27. [Applause.] Congratulations, Linda. I'm very pleased to be able to present you with this.

Ms. Linda Barbee. Ladies, the one thing about it, get out there and get your renewals and start on new ones. Thank you, Claudia. [Applause.]

First Junior Vice-Commander Roy. I have just one real quick little thing to say here. Vivian Voelz, who is the National Executive Committee woman from the 7th District, is unable to be at the convention this year. But she wanted very much for me to announce that she has signed up a brand new great granddaughter for five years. She was born on July 13. Her name is Ashley Ann Kirschner. She has her membership and her check for five years right here. [Applause.]

Ms. Daley. Thank you all. Congratulations to all the winners. And just work harder next year. Thank you.

First Junior Vice-Commander Roy. Miriam was a very, very gracious and knowledgeable chairman and I enjoyed working with her. And to the entire committee, I thank you for your dedication and your time. It was an enjoyment for me, too. Thank you. [Applause.]

Commander Allred. Thank you. Congratulations once again to all the winners. Now we have VAVS. National VAVS Representative Eleanor Walkney; the convention chairman is Geneva Farmer. And I believe our deputy, Helen Parys, will be accompanying them. [Applause.]

Ms. Geneva Farmer. Good afternoon, ladies. National Commander, National Adjutant, National Officers, Past National Commanders, delegates and guests of the 68th National Auxiliary Convention:

The National VAVS Committee met in the Capistrano Room at 2:00 p.m. July 30,1990. Our advisor was our National Chairman, Eleanor Walkney. Our recording secretary was Betty Shropshire.

The following units were judged to be the best in their category for the National VAVS Awards: Valentine Paul Unit #126 in Michigan. [Applause.] Los Animas #6, Colorado. [Applause.]

Joseph McNearney #41 from New Jersey. [Applause.] Milwaukee #1 in Wisconsin. [Applause.]

The committee submitted the following recommendations:

One of the questions on the report was, it says "Number of miles from the meeting place to the VA medical center." I think most of us, we wanted it changed to read "Number of miles from your home to the medical center." You do not start out from your meeting place to go. Most of us start out from our homes. [Applause.]

Then, one of the reports put down they paid their volunteers. Well, volunteers don't get paid. It just didn't make sense. So they had this money down paying their volunteers.

Then, they would like to have certificates of appreciation given to second and third place. These reports, all of the reports, there are so many very good ones and they would like to have second and third place that could be considered.

Then, complete all of the items on your form. A couple of them took and wrote everything on separate sheets and it was real hard to decide where that answer went. So you should fill out the form, not put it all on a separate sheet of paper.

And one more. They wanted junior and youth groups sponsored by the DAV and Auxiliary to get credit for their hours on the report. [Applause.]

The committee was: Janet Snow from District 1 in Maine; Dolores Robidoux, District 2, New York; Harriet Anderson, District 3, from Rhode Island; Sarah Tregaskis, 4, from New Jersey; Donna Sellers, District 5, from Pennsylvania; Matilda Johnson, District 6, from D. C.; Rhea Garrett, District 7, from Florida; Ernie Covington, District 8, from Mississippi; Georgia Thompson, District 9, from Georgia; Millie Jelsma, District 10, from Michigan; Katharine Powers, District 11, from Ohio; Mary Michal, District 12, from Illinois; Irene Sablic, District 13, from Indiana; Marie Doherty, District 14, from Maine; Myrna Edson, District 15, from Iowa; Betty Shropshire, District 17, from Colorado, she was also our secretary; Jan Bennett, District 18, from Nevada; Marjorie Fairbanks, District 19, from Arkansas; Virginia Stewart, #20, from Texas; Sadie Kimberling, District 21, from Arkansas.

I'd like all these ladies to stand up and take a bow. They worked very, very hard [Applause.] and we had a very, very good bunch of girls to work with. Thank you very much. Now I'll go by the groups.

Group 1, 10 to 50 members, was Valentine Paul #127 from Michigan. [Applause.]

Ms. **ELEANOR WALKNEY**. Congratulations to you. For a small unit to have done as much as this group has done is really something to be proud of. And lots of good wishes to you for doing even better in the future.

MEMBER. Thank you. On behalf of the Department of Michigan I want to thank you. This little unit that she was talking about is only 1 to 50 and I believe, if I'm not mistaken, they won something like eight or nine of our plaques at the convention this year.

They're a very hardworking unit and we're really proud to have them in our department. So on behalf of that unit I'm very proud to accept this award. Thank you. [Applause.]

Ms. **Farmer**. Group 2, from 51 to 100 members, #6 Los Animas, Colorado. [Applause.]

Ms. **Walkney**. Lots and lots of congratulations to you for a job very, very well done. There was lots of competition here and you really came out ahead.

Member. Thank you. For the Department of Colorado I'd like to tell you I'm the first junior vice and also the commander of #6. And we are very small but we are a hardworking group. And I want to tell you they will just be delighted; it's just wonderful. Thank you very much. [Applause.]

Ms. **Farmer**. We have Group 3, 101 to 200, #41 Joseph McNearney from New Jersey. [Applause.]

Ms. **Walkney**. Congratulations to you for a very, very good job, very well done. We're awfully proud of you. Keep up the good work, please.

Member. Thank you. Once again on behalf of our commander, Alberta Kelhoff, who could not be here today, I accept this award. And it's special for me because I am the hospital chairman for my Auxiliary and each time I go I ask one of the girls to come with me, new girl to go to the hospital, and I always get a new volunteer. So I'm very proud of the Auxiliary, the members of Unit 41. [Applause.]

Ms. **Farmer**. We have Group 4 now, 201 members and over, Milwaukee #1 from Wisconsin. [Applause.]

Ms. **Walkney**. This is a particular pleasure for me because at one point I lived in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. So it's wonderful to award this.

Ms. **Elaine Morris**. It's a great state.

Ms. **Walkney**. Yes, it is. And lots and lots of congratulations to it, and I love those women.

Ms. **Morris**. My name is Elaine C. Morris. I'm the department commander, this year for Wisconsin. And would you believe this is my own unit, I am the hospital chairman for this unit, so this award, I'll tell you, I'm very happy and so pleased. Thank you. [Applause.]

Ms. **Farmer**. I got permission to read a little poem that covers volunteering, not only in this category but a lot of categories.

VOLUNTEERS, GOD BLESS THEM

Many will be shocked to find
When the day of judgment nears
That there's a special place in heaven
Set aside for volunteers

Furnished with big recliners
Satin couches, and footstools,
Where there is no committee chairman
No group leaders or carpools

No eager team that needs a coach
No bazaar and no bake sale
There will be nothing to staple
Not one thing to fold or mail.

Telephone lists will be outlawed
But a finger snap will bring
Cool drinks and gourmet dinners
And treats fit for a king

You ask "Who'll serve these privileged few

And work for all their worth?
"Well, all those who reaped the benefits
And not once volunteered on earth.

Thank you very much. [Applause.]

Ms. **Walkney**. I would like to thank this committee. They were a wonderful committee to work with, very knowledgeable, and for the first time in a lot of years I think we were out well before 4:00 o'clock and the decisions were made because it was done in an organized fashion. Part of that was due to Geneva, who did just a perfectly marvelous job.

I would like also to introduce you to my deputy, who has been of invaluable assistant to me this year. And she is the one whose name you probably saw a lot more than mine on the bottoms of your joint reviews. So, Helen, will you step up just a moment?

Ms. **Helen Parys**. Good afternoon, everybody. I'm not going to say very much. It's nice to see everybody. And I hope that you go back and work harder on VAVS work, we need it. Thank you. [Applause.]

Commander **Allred**. Thank you. And congratulations to all the award winners. Now we have our next committee, Mae Holmes. The National Advisor was our National Senior Vice Myrtice Vinson; the convention committee chairman is Leona Sharp. [Applause.]

Ms. **Leona Sharp**. National Commander Shelia, National Adjutant Maria, National Officers, Past National Commanders, delegates and guests of this 68th National Convention:

The National Mae Holmes Convention Committee met in the Monterey Room at 2:00 p.m. July 30, 1990. Our advisor was Myrtice "Squeaky" Vinson. And because there was a mix-up in our folder, I became the secretary also.

The following units were judged to be the best in their category for the National Mae Holmes Award: Group 1, Weakley County #98, Tennessee. [Applause.] Group 2, Payson #13, Arizona. [Applause.] Group 3, Francis J. Beacon #1, North Dakota. [Applause.] Group 4, Tri-City #8, Arizona. [Applause.]

The committee has suggested the following recommendations:

That it might be a little bit easier if perhaps some place on the report the name of the nearest VA medical center was placed so that we have some idea perhaps of the mileage that these groups have to travel.

Also, a letter was submitted to the National Office by a department suggesting that the line requiring meeting membership quota be eliminated from the Mae Holmes Award report. They felt that it was too hard for some of the smaller units to make quota but they did good work.

The committee discussed this, and we felt that the Mae Holmes report is a summary of all of the Auxiliary programs and meeting your quota of your membership program is a very important part of that program so we feel it should remain in.

I'd like to thank my committee. There were a lot of very good reports and we had a very hard time deciding on some of them; so we did it democratically, we voted.

District 1, Donna Tanner; District 3, Marie Sanchas; District 4, Josephine Loncosky; District 5, Sonia Baldwin; District 6, Elizabeth

Juba; District 7, Helen Shoudel; District 8, Lillian Vaughan; District 9, Frieda Lynch; District 10, myself; District 11, Virginia Gleason; District 12, Adele Jackson; District 13, Joyce Sablic; District 14, Margie Freetly; District 15, Maxine Horton; District 16, Sylvia Pasnak; District 17, Lil Mason; District 18, Kay Yeager; District 19, Sarah LaPlante; District 20, Joyce Dye; District 21, Bettye Campbell. And our very capable and wonderful advisor, of course, was Myrtice Vinson. Thank you.

Group 1, 10 to 50 members, Weakley County #98, Tennessee. [Applause.]

Senior Vice-Commander **Vinson**. It is my pleasure to present to you this award. Please accept it in great honor.

Ms. **Barbara Houser**. Thank you. Barbara Houser, immediate past department commander of Tennessee and the newly elect NEC of 8th District. [Applause.]

Ms. **Sharp**. Group 2, 51 to 100 members, Payson #13, Arizona. [Applause.]

Senior Vice-Commander **Vinson**. It is my pleasure to present to you this award. I'm sure you will take this back with pride. Thank you so much.

Member. As the new department commander I'm very proud to accept this for our department and to take back to 13. And I'm doubly proud because 13 is my home unit. Hooray for Lucky 13! [Applause.]

Ms. **Sharp**. Group 3, 101 to 200 members, Francis J. Beacon #1, North Dakota. [Applause.]

Senior Vice-Commander **Vinson**. It goes without saying that the State of North Dakota was certainly in the know and on the go all this past year. So it is my pleasure to present to you this award for the Mae Holmes Award. I'll tell you what, if you could have seen the report form you too would be happy that they are winners. They really are winners. [Applause.]

Ms. **Judy Steinhouse**. Thank you. I'm Judy Steinhouse, Dickinson Unit #8, North Dakota.

[Inaudible comment from floor.]

Ms. **Steinhouse**. No fooling! If the awards are over you won't be seeing me any more! We may be a small state and we may be sparsely populated but we've got one great bunch of women working for us. Thank you so much. [Applause.]

Ms. **Sharp**. And Group 4, 201 members and over, Tri-City #8, Arizona. [Applause.]

Senior Vice-Commander **Vinson**. It was my pleasure to attend this convention this year, the state convention, and I'll tell you I know firsthand that they really were a winner. I saw them, I saw the reports—I'll sneak a peak at convention. I heard them win at state convention. The chairmen of these state departments that I visited told of all the hard work that had been done. And certainly it is my pleasure to present to you this award. [Applause.]

Member. Thank you again. We too, Shelia, are in the know and on the go in Arizona, in Arizona and all over. And I'll tell you, I just don't believe it. But thank you very much. God bless you. [Applause.]

Senior Vice-Commander **Vinson**. I certainly would like to thank all of the committee members, and especially the chairman, Leona

Sharp. Leona did such a marvelous job. You know, it was a little bit hard right at first because we had to be sure that we did not disqualify a unit because they had not met quota.

And this committee looked up the June 30th, ending June 30th report; from that summary they were sure if that report, if it was a good one they checked to see if they had made it by the end of this membership year. They certainly worked hard and are deserving of many thanks. I especially want to thank all of them. [Applause.]

Commander ALLRED. Now we have a special award presentation. It's our special Americanism award. We saved that for last. I would like to call National Chairman and Advisor Bonnie Newell and Convention Chairman Joan Cook back to the podium.

Ms. JOAN COOK. I'd like to announce this special Americanism award, Tri-City #8, Arizona. [Applause.] They truly did cover every area of Americanism in educating the public. Thank you.

Third Junior Vice-Commander NEWELL. It really gives me great pleasure to give another award to a great unit. It looks like somebody is working somewhere hardly without stopping. So we're just glad to have this to give to you and we wanted to tell you that we're privileged to know that we have units like that in the United States working for this worthy organization. Thank you. [Applause.]

MEMBER. Thank you so much. But we really are the privileged ones to belong to an organization where I've never met a bunch of women that you just can't help but fall in love with and try to meet up to their expectations. We really do appreciate all of this. And God bless you all. [Applause.]

Commander ALLRED. My goodness, that unit is a real inspiration to me. They're going to need a wheelbarrow to take those things back in, aren't they?

Congratulations once again to all you winners. You truly deserve it. I want to thank you for the hard work and the dedication that you have given to your Auxiliary, to the public, and to the Disabled American Veterans.

At this time Eleanor Walkney has turned her report in as VAVS representative. Eleanor will be doing the presentation tomorrow at the VAVS program. So the Chair finds it in order at this time to accept the minutes of Eleanor Walkney, VAVS representative, to be entered into the minutes as a matter of record.

Second Junior Vice-Commander MALDET. Madam Commander, I so move that they be accepted into the record.

Commander ALLRED. It has been moved that Eleanor's report be accepted into the minutes as a matter of record. Does the motion have a second? Loneita Shoemaker, Past National Commander, seconds that motion. Is there any discussion? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Maria, did you want to do something? I'm going to turn the podium over to National Adjutant Maria Tedrow for whatever.

Adjutant TEDROW. I'll give a couple of announcements now because when we get done with business I'm sure everybody is going to want to get out of here.

The total collected so far for Ed Loan $8,710.36, $8,710.36. [Applause.]

And again I'd like to remind you the Heart of America will meet on the 14th floor in Room 430 at 4:30.

Forget-Me-Not tickets are still on sale. We have moved them to the registration counter. The Forget-Me-Not Luncheon is tomorrow at 12:30. And you're going to miss a very nice program if you don't go and a good menu.

Unit 11 of Mississippi and the officers of Mississippi, if they would come down front after this meeting has recessed we would like to talk to you. Also Past National Commander Eva Rodgers, if she can.

Department of South Carolina, we would like to have the officers of the Department of South Carolina come down front after the meeting is over.

And now to hear—this lady says "I have lost a Canon camera. I believe it was by the fronds outside of the California Night last night. If the person wants to keep the camera, they can; I would like the film." And it's Kathy Weatherly that has lost the camera, and it says Kathy's husband Dennis is 100 percent disabled and wheelchair-bound, so, please, this film has the pictures of him with Ann Jillian and he would like to have that film, please. So if anybody knows of anything there, please let us know.

Commander Allred. I want to tell you, the staff are a beautiful group of girls. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with them this year. They're always so cordial, so helpful, a smile; the times that I've been to headquarters they've been right there, if I'm tired from traveling they lift me up. And I'll tell you what, you just don't know how lucky we are to have Maria, Judy, and the National Staff that we have. And I think they deserve a rising vote of appreciation. [Rising applause.]

Okay, we did rise, but what I'm going to do is let you stand up and stretch for like two minutes before we go into the National Constitution and Bylaws. I want you to get your blood circulating because I want you to hear—they are circulating—I want you to be able to relax and listen to these things.

So everybody stand up, turn around, tell somebody what you like about something that happened today, right now for two minutes.

[Short break.]

Commander Allred. Would the officers please take their stations. Would the delegates please be seated. I hereby call this meeting back to order. Your silence is required. We will now have the second reading of the Constitution and Bylaws proposals by Chairman Loneita Shoemaker.

Ms. Loneita Shoemaker. Good afternoon. I'm going to read the proposed bylaw amendments.

Page N–4, Article I, Section 1, Line 3, amend to read:

> The governing bodies of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary shall be the National Convention, the National Executive Committee, and the delegates or alternates of the state departments and units.

Madam Commander, I move the acceptance of this amendment.

Commander Allred. It has been moved and seconded to accept this amendment. Does the motion have a second? Mary, go to the mike, please. Thyra can't hear you. No, the stenographer. Please, so it can be entered in the minutes, please go to the mike. She has earphones on. Okay, thank you.

Ms. **Mary Patterson**. Mary Patterson, Elmer Pond #1, Fort Wayne, Indiana, seconds that motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion has a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker**. Page N-4, Article I, Section 3, Line 3, amend to read:

> The National Convention shall be composed of the elected National Officers, the Past National Commanders, the National Executive Committeewomen, and the delegates or alternates representing the state departments and units of the organization.

Madam Commander, I move the acceptance of this amendment.

Commander **Allred**. It has been moved to accept this amendment. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Elizabeth Diestler**. Elizabeth Diestler, Iowa 11, seconds.

Commander **Allred**. The motion has a second. Any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker**. Pages N-4 and N-5, Article I, Section 4, Paragraph 4, amend to read:

> A delegate to a National Convention shall not be allowed to vote until she is properly registered, dues paid for the convention year, has received the membership obligation, and is not indebted to the organization. A member shall not cast a vote in the National Convention in more than one representative capacity, or be registered as a delegate from more than one unit. In the absence of any delegate, her vote shall be cast by her alternate.

Madam Commander, I move the acceptance of this amendment.

Commander **Allred**. It has been moved to accept this amendment. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Linda Riley**. Linda Riley, Department of Indiana, seconds that motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion has a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker**. Page N-8, Convention Rule 21, Paragraph 3, amend to read:

> Each National Chairman shall serve as advisor to her respective committee. Other committee advisors shall be assigned by the National Commander. Each advisor shall attend the meetings of her committee and enter into committee discussions without the privilege of voting.

Madam Commander, I move for the adoption of this amendment.

Commander **Allred**. It has been moved to adopt this amendment. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Verna Oradei**. Verna Oradei from the Department of Michigan. I second this motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion has a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker**. Page N-9, Item Number 4, Auxiliary Past National Commanders Award. Amend by placing on Page Roman Number VIII under "Past National Commanders." Madam Commander, I move for the adoption of this amendment.

Ms. **Catena Piti**. Madam Commander, Catena Piti, Department of South Dakota. I second that motion.

Commander **Allred**. It has been moved to adopt this amendment. The amendment does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker**. Page N-11, Article III, Section 4, Paragraph 2, amend to read:

> She shall review all state Standing Rules for any discrepancies prior to their becoming effective.

Madam Commander, I move for the adoption of this amendment.

Commander **Allred**. It has been moved to adopt this amendment. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Barbara Chumley**. Madam Commander, Barbara Chumley, Unit #3, Kentucky. I second.

Commander **Allred**. The motion has a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker**. Page N-12, Article III, Section 5, Paragraph 3, Line 3, amend to read:

> The National Adjutant, by and with the consent of the National Commander and the National Executive Committee, may appoint Assistant National Adjutant(s). The National Adjutant may employ other personnel as may be deemed necessary to conduct the business affairs of her office. She shall determine the salary of all personnel by and with the consent of the National Finance Committee.

Madam Commander, I move for the adoption of this amendment.

Commander **Allred**. It has been moved to adopt this amendment. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Linda Barbee**. Linda Barbee, Unit 27, North Carolina. I second that motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion has a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker**. Page N-15, Article V, Section 3, Paragraph 2, amend to read:

> The National Executive Committee shall elect to the Finance Committee two National Executive Committeewomen from the even-numbered districts in the even-numbered years and two National Executive Committeewomen from the odd-numbered districts in the odd-numbered years for a two-year term. The National Commander shall appoint a member of the National Executive Committee to fill any vacancy.

Madam Commander, I move for the adoption of this amendment.

Commander **Allred**. It has been moved to adopt this amendment. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Susan McAnany**. Susan McAnany, Unit 51, Dearborn. I second that motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion has a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker**. Pages N-20 through N-24, Article IX, Sections 1 through 13, amend to read:

ARTICLE IX—STATE DEPARTMENTS

Section 1: Composition

> The Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary for the purpose of administration may be divided into state departments.

Each state department shall be the authorized governing body of Auxiliary units operating within the boundary lines of that state.

Each chartered Auxiliary unit shall affiliate with the state department within which it is organized, and shall have all rights and privileges equal to all other chartered units within that state.

Each state department shall have a state Auxiliary at large, using the state DAV chapter at large name and number.

Madam Commander, I move for the adoption of this amendment.

Ms. **JEANNE ZWICK**. Jeanne Zwick, Department of Pennsylvania. I second that motion.

Commander **ALLRED**. It has been moved to adopt this amendment. The motion has a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **SHOEMAKER** [reading]:

SECTION 2: STATE CHARTER

A state charter may be granted upon application to National Headquarters following a majority vote of local units in good standing within a state where there are at least three active Auxiliary units with a minimum of 150 members.

An application for a state charter must be accompanied by a charter fee of $2 per unit for each unit signing the application, and the $25 fidelity bond premium. Such application shall be approved by the state executive committee of the Disabled American Veterans.

Madam Commander, I move for the adoption of this amendment.

Commander **ALLRED**. It has been moved to adopt this amendment. Does the motion have a second?

JEWELENE JONES. Jewelene Jones, Chapter 7, Dallas. I second the motion.

Commander **ALLRED**. The motion has a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **SHOEMAKER** [reading]:

SECTION 3: GOVERNING POWERS

The governing body of the state department shall be the state convention. Business of the organization requiring consideration between conventions shall be transacted by the state executive committee.

Madam Commander, I move for the adoption of this amendment.

Commander **ALLRED**. It has been moved to adopt this amendment. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **LOUISE BARILE**. Louise Barile, Unit 73, New Jersey, seconds the motion.

Commander **ALLRED**. The motion has a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **SHOEMAKER** [reading]:

SECTION 4: STATE CONVENTIONS

Each state department shall hold an annual convention at a time and place selected by its respective Disabled American Veterans state department. Said convention shall operate under convention rules provided by each state department.

Madam Commander, I move for the adoption of this amendment.

Commander **ALLRED**. It has been moved to adopt this amendment. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **MARIE ROBINSON**. Marie Robinson, Unit 44, New Jersey, seconds that motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker** [reading]:

SECTION 5: STATE BYLAWS

Each state department shall be governed by standard state Bylaws as provided in the National Constitution and Bylaws of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary. Such Bylaws shall not prohibit a state department from designating the number of state junior vice-commanders, appointed state officers and committees, state per capita and/or state mandates.

Madam Commander, I move for the adoption of this amendment.

Commander **Allred**. It has been moved to adopt this amendment. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Evelyn Dorsey**. Madam Commander, Evelyn Dorsey, Department of the District of Columbia, seconds.

Commander **Allred**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **Barbara Rusnak**. Madam Commander, Barbara Rusnak, alternate NEC District 4. I'd like to make a motion that we approve all of the proposed changes at this time.

Commander **Allred**. This is a motion on the floor. Would you please repeat your motion, Barbara?

Ms. **Rusnak**. I've made a motion that we approve all of the proposed bylaw changes at this time as they are printed.

Commander **Allred**. There is a motion on the floor that we approve all the bylaw changes as they are printed. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Marie Robinson**. Marie Robinson, Unit 44, New Jersey, seconds that motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. The Noes have it, the motion is not carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker** [reading]:

SECTION 6: STATE STANDING RULES

Standing Rules shall be adopted by each state department. Such rules will relate to the details of the state department and shall not conflict with the National Constitution and Bylaws and the standard state Bylaws.

Standing Rules shall be adopted by a majority vote at the state convention.

Madam Commander, I move for the adoption of this amendment.

Commander **Allred**. It has been moved to adopt this amendment. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Jan Archer**. Jan Archer, NEC District 21. I second this motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion has a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker** [reading]:

SECTION 7: STATE OFFICERS

Each state department shall elect state officers and appoint such officers as provided in the standard state Bylaws and state Standing Rules.

Madam Commander, I move for the adoption of this amendment.

Commander **Allred**. It has been moved to adopt this amendment. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Sandy Schulman**. Sandy Schulman, Unit 12, New Jersey, seconds that motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker** [reading]:

SECTION 8: DISTRICTS, REGIONS, ZONES OF STATE DEPARTMENTS

> In states where districts, regions, or zones of the Disabled American Veterans are established, the Auxiliary may establish similar districts, regions, or zones.
>
> No district, region, or zone shall exercise the power of a governing body or conduct any fundraising activity.
>
> They shall operate under rules adopted by their state department, provided such rules are consistent with the standard state Bylaws and with the National Constitution and Bylaws of the Auxiliary.

Madam Commander, I move for the adoption of this amendment.

Commander **Allred**. It has been moved to adopt this amendment. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Jan Archer**. Jan Archer, NEA District 21. I second this motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker**. N–25, Article X, Section 1, Paragraph 2 and Paragraph 3, amend to read:

> All applications for charter shall be made directly to National Headquarters. Applications shall be accompanied with a $5 National charter fee, $2.50 fidelity bond premium, and the entire amount of dues for each member.

Madam Commander, I move for the adoption of this amendment.

Commander **Allred**. It has been moved to adopt this amendment. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Carol Gray**. Madam Chairman, Carol Gray, Michigan #9. I'll make the second to the motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker**. Article X, Section 1, Paragraph 3, amend to read:

> At least ten new senior memberships must accompany each charter application. Transfer and junior members may be added after the ten new senior memberships.

Madam Commander, I move for the adoption of this amendment.

Commander **Allred**. It has been moved to adopt this amendment. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Johann Spalding**. Johann Spalding, Department of Michigan. I second the motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker**. Page N–25, Article X, Sections 3, 4, 5, and 6. Section Number 3, amend to read:

An active chartered unit is one: (a) which has ten or more paid-up life and/or annual senior members; (b) which holds at least ten monthly business meetings per year; (c) which conducts an annual election for unit officers.

SECTION 4:

An inactive chartered unit is one which does not meet the requirements set forth in Section 3 and is subject to having its charter revoked.

An inactive unit cannot purchase jewelry, flags, or caps bearing the official emblem of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary from National Headquarters.

SECTION 5:

A chartered unit must be in good standing with National mandates paid and a copy of their financial report filed with National Headquarters before delegates may vote at National Convention.

SECTION 6:

A chartered unit must be in good standing with state mandates (if any) paid, and a copy of their financial report filed with state before delegates may vote at state convention.

Madam Commander, I move for the acceptance of this amendment.

Commander ALLRED. It has been moved to accept this amendment. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. SOPHIA MATE. Sophia Mate of New Jersey 41 seconds the motion.

Commander ALLRED. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion?

Ms. SUE MCANANY. Yes, I do have something I'd like to find out. Sue McAnany from Michigan. The only question I have on this is on the ten meetings a year that would be required before they would be considered active.

I know in Michigan we have some units that are way up in the upper peninsula that it gets very snowy during the winter and sometimes they are lucky to be able to meet seven or eight times, nine times, during the year. And because they might not meet the ten-meeting requirement, is that going to mean that they could stand in jeopardy of having their charter pulled, that they would be considered an inactive unit? I mean sometimes the weather just does not permit them to hold ten full meetings. That's my only question. Thank you.

Ms. SHOEMAKER. I would think that maybe within that month they could hold a meeting.

Ms. MCANANY. No. I'm sorry, but you've probably never been up to the upper peninsula. I'm talking about——

Ms. SHOEMAKER. No, I haven't.

Ms. MCANANY. I'm talking about an area that overnight can have a couple of feet of snow. And there are times when they're snowed in during the winter months, that they just cannot get out to meet.

Ms. LUCILLE MCCARTHY. Madam Commander, Lucille McCarthy, Tampa #4. To me that is an act of God as far as the weather is concerned. But normally if they would hold ten regularly scheduled meetings if it were not for a snowstorm or a hurricane or whatever, I would say that that should not affect a particular unit and they would not be considered inactive. They could hold meetings during the summertime if they can't during the wintertime to make up for that also.

Ms. **McAnany**. Oh, they do hold meetings during the summer. I mean that's the one time they really can.

Commander **Allred**. Maybe an extra meeting during the summer. You know, this has been in our Bylaws, ten meetings, you know, and I don't understand why it's an issue right now. We've never had a problem with snow and everything.

Ms. **McAnany**. I didn't mean to make it an issue. It's the first time it really jumped out at me and I thought—I know in Michigan we do have this kind of a thing going on.

And there's one unit that does hold maybe seven or eight meetings. But that's how they keep their unit going, that's all that they can hold. And I'd hate to think that someone could at some point decide that they were inactive when to my way of thinking they're not, they're trying the best that they can.

Thank you. I did not mean to make it an issue.

Commander **Allred**. Well, what I meant was that it had been in there before and we had never had a problem with units because of weather conditions or a problem of nature. I mean I don't think there's any way that anybody would come out and pull their charter because of anything like that. Is there any further discussion?

Ms. **Carol Gray**. Madam Chairman, Carol Gray, Michigan #9. On Section 6, I would like to make a motion at this time that we add a sentence to that that says "Any unit with gross receipts over $25,000 must also include a copy of an auditor's report form."

Ms. **Shoemaker**. Carol, you will find that in another article.

Ms. **Gray**. But that only refers in there to them having filing one with National, not with the state department. It's not listed in there as having to send one to the state department, only to the National Office.

Because I know in Michigan we have many, many units with bingo and have many girls who receive well over the $25,000 mark. And they do send copies of their auditor's report to National or they would not be in good standing, but I think at this point it should be added to this also so that the state department can have a record of that also, other than just on——

Member. Madam Commander.

Commander **Allred**. Excuse me. We have a motion on the floor. Carol, you did make a motion?

Ms. **Gray**. Yes, I did.

Commander **Allred**. Would you repeat that motion, please?

Ms. **Gray**. "All units with gross receipts of over $25,000 must also file a copy of the auditor's report form."

Commander **Allred**. This is an amendment to this amendment, right?

Ms. **Gray**. Right. Add a sentence that says it.

Commander **Allred**. Where are you adding that?

Ms. **Gray**. On Section 6, after where it says "may vote at state convention," "Units with gross receipts over $25,000 must also include an auditor's statement."

Commander **Allred**. Does everybody understand the amendment to the amendment? Does the amendment have a second?

Ms. **Verna Oradei**. Madam Chairman, Verna Oradei from the State of Michigan seconds that motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion?

Ms. **Linda Riley**. Madam Commander, Linda Riley, State Department Indiana. I think if you look further into your Constitution and Bylaws on the state part that is further over you'll find that there is a place for $25,000 to be audited and sent to the department.

Commander **Allred**. Is there any other discussion? We will vote on the amendment to the amendment first before we go back to the original motion on the amendment.

Ms. **Gray**. Madam Chairman, on that one further over there it does just say it has to be mailed to National Headquarters.

Commander **Allred**. Is there any other discussion?

Ms. **Donna Sanders**. Madam Commander, Donna Sanders, Unit 20, Glendale, Arizona. I believe that in our regular Bylaws under the unit Bylaws it covers that. This is for the state departments, this isn't saying what the units are supposed to do. These are for what our state departments are supposed to do. Is that correct or not? But in our standard state Bylaws it does provide for that.

Ms. **Shoemaker**. That's correct, Donna. That's the way I see it, too.

Commander **Allred**. Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. The motion on the amendment does not carry. Now we will vote on the——

Ms. **Ehring Seetoo**. Ehring Seetoo, Unit 64, California. On Section 3(b), "which holds at least ten monthly business meetings per year," if we could change that to "which holds at least ten business meetings per year" and omit the "monthly" we may be able to get around this problem with snowstorms, hurricanes, or rain.

Commander **Allred**. Is there any other discussion?

Ms. **Seetoo**. I make a motion that we omit the word "monthly."

Commander **Allred**. There is a motion on the floor to amend the amendment to omit the word "monthly." Does the motion have a second? Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Susan McAnany**. Susan McAnany, Unit 51, Dearborn. I support that motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question on the amendment to the amendment? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. The Ayes have it and the word "monthly" is struck out.

Is there any further discussion on the main motion of the amendment? It has a motion and a second. Are you ready for the question of the amendment as amended? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. The motion is carried as amended.

Ms. **Shoemaker**. Page N-27, Article XII, Sections 1 through 4, amend as follows:

ARTICLE X—OFFENSES, PENALTIES, APPEALS AND LAWSUITS

I'm sorry, I said Article X, it is Article XII, Offenses, Penalties, Appeals and Lawsuits.

SECTION 1: OFFENSES

No member of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary shall have her membership rights abridged except for the following:

(a) Violation of the Constitution and Bylaws of the National organization, the state department, or a local unit.

(b) Refusal to comply with the lawful orders of the National Convention, the National Executive Committee, or the state department.

(c) Conduct not conducive to the best interests of the organization, or contrary to the maintenance of proper order and decorum within the organization.

(d) Failure to comply with the lawful orders of the National Commander.

Madam Commander, I move for the acceptance of Section Number 1.

Commander **ALLRED**. It has been moved to accept Section Number 1. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **JAN ARCHER**. Jan Archer, NEC District 21. I second the motion.

Commander **ALLRED**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **SHOEMAKER** [reading]:

SECTION 2: PENALTIES

The penalties imposed under Section 1 are defined as follows:

(a) Reprimand shall consist of a written admonition to the member by the National Commander.

(b) Suspension shall remove the member for not more than one year from membership and/or from any office held by her. The National Commander may temporarily suspend a member if in her sole discretion she determines that a suspension is in the best interests of the organization.

(c) Transfer shall be the transfer of membership to the state or National at-large units.

(d) Expulsion shall permanently remove the member from membership.

Madam Commander, I move for the acceptance of Section Number 2 of this amendment.

Commander **ALLRED**. There is a motion on the floor to accept Section Number 2 of this amendment. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **BEATRICE ALBANESE**. Beatrice Albanese, Unit 9, New Jersey, seconds the motion.

Commander **ALLRED**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **SHOEMAKER** [reading]:

SECTION 3: APPEALS

The penalty imposed shall be final, unless the penalty is expulsion. In such case, written appeal to the National Executive Committee stating reasons for appeal must be filed within 30 days after mailing of the penalty to the member. The appeal is to be sent to the National Adjutant by registered mail. Such appeal shall be without cost to the National organization.

Under such appeal, the burden shall be upon the member to demonstrate that the decision is clearly erroneous.

The decision of the National Executive Committee under this article shall be final, anything to the contrary in these Bylaws notwithstanding.

Madam Commander, I move for the acceptance of Section Number 3.

Commander **ALLRED**. It has been moved for the acceptance of Section Number 3. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Jan Archer**. Jan Archer, NEC District 21. I second the motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker** [reading]:

Section 4: Lawsuits

A member may be suspended should she resort to or join in a court action against a unit, state department, or the National organization or officers thereof, as such, before exhausting all remedies available within the organization.

Madam Commander, I move for the acceptance of this article.

Commander **Allred**. Motion has been made to accept this section. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Mary Kabler**. Madam Commander, Mary Kabler, Ohio 90. I second the motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker**. Page N-29, Article XIV, Section 3, Paragraph 2, Lines 5 and 6, amend to read:

State executive committeewomen shall be installed by an Auxiliary Past National Commander, an elected National Officer, a National Adjutant, an Assistant National Adjutant, a National Executive Committeewoman, an elected state officer, or a past state commander.

Madam Commander, I move for the acceptance of Section Number 3.

Commander **Allred**. It has been moved to accept Section Number 3. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Verna Oradei**. Madam Chairman, Verna Oradei, Department of Michigan, seconds this motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker**. Page N-29, Article XIV, Section 4, Line 5, amend to read:

Unit officers shall be installed by an Auxiliary Past National Commander, an elected National Officer, a National Adjutant, an Assistant National Adjutant, a National Executive Committeewoman, an elected state officer, a past state commander, or a past unit commander.

Madam Commander, I move for the acceptance of this section.

Commander **Allred**. It has been moved to accept this section. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Josephine Ricciardi**. Josephine Ricciardi, Unit 26, New Jersey, second the motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker**. Page U-9, Article VI, Item 8, Audit Committee, amend to read:

If the total gross income of the unit exceeds $25,000, the unit financial records shall be reviewed and verified by an independent or certified public accountant. The accountant's statement or a completed financial report form shall be mailed to National Headquarters within 30 days following completion of the audit.

Madam Commander, I move for the acceptance of this amendment.

Commander **Allred**. It has been moved to accept this amendment. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Shirley Joachim**. Madam Commander, Shirley Joachim, Unit 19, South Dakota. I second the motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion?

Ms. **Carol Gray**. Madam Chairman, Carol Gray, Michigan 9. I would like to make a motion that after the words "National Headquarters" we add "and to the state department."

Commander **Allred**. There's a motion on the floor that to be added after "National Headquarters"—it would be "and to the state department," Carol? That motion is on the floor. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Verna Oradei**. Madam Commander, Verna Oradei, Department of Michigan, seconds that motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion?

Ms. **Pat Egel**. Madam Commander, Pat Egel, Unit 8, Arizona. It is my understanding that we are at this time completely referring to state Bylaws in a state department. I would understand this to read that it's a state unit we are referring to, and the state certainly doesn't send their audit report to the state.

The audit report that a unit sends to the state department and National is provided for in our unit Bylaws. This is strictly the state audit. Although it says "unit," it's the state unit, it does not refer to the individual local unit, which is covered in their standard Bylaws.

Commander **Allred**. I'll refer this to the chairman of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee for clarification.

Ms. **Shoemaker**. Yes, Pat, this does pertain to the unit here. This is under Page U-9.

Commander **Allred**. Any further discussion?

Ms. **Lucille McCarthy**. Lucille McCarthy, Tampa 4. If you refer to Page U-9 under "Audit Committee," Paragraph 3 states "The financial report forms provided by National Headquarters shall be completed and sent to state and National within 30 days following completion of the audit." So that takes care of state.

What we are amending at this present time as I read is the next paragraph which had been in our Bylaws and refers to whether you do or do not need an accountant's audit. And we are saying that you need an accountant to audit your books if your gross income is $25,000 or more.

And this is referring then to sending this to National. But state is provided for in the previous paragraph in our Bylaws, which we have not changed.

Commander **Allred**. Is there any further discussion? We have an amendment to the amendment of the Bylaws; the motion to amend, we have an amendment to it. The motion does have a second. Any further discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign.

The Chair is going to call for the question again. Do you understand what you're voting on? I'm going to ask the chairman of the Constitution and Bylaws to clarify it.

Ms. **Shoemaker**. Under Page U-9, Article VI, Section Number 8, Audit Committee.

> If the total gross income of the unit exceeds $25,000 the unit financial records shall be reviewed and verified by an independent or certified public accountant. The accountant's statement or a completed financial report form shall be mailed to National Headquarters——

Ms. **Shoemaker** [continuing]: And the amendment is——

> and state department within 30 days following the completion of the audit.

Commander **Allred**. Do you understand the amendment to insert "and to the state department"? I am calling for the question again. All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Now we will vote on the original motion for the amendment as it was just amended. Is there any further discussion? Are you ready for the question?

Ms. **Kathy Clampitt**. Commander Shelia, Kathy Clampitt from Unit 5 in Oregon. I have a question here about why we would send the CPA's report or the financial report. Wouldn't it be that you would send them together? I don't understand why you would have an audit report. It sounds like you're replacing one with the other.

Ms. **Shoemaker**. No, you are not replacing one with another.

Ms. **Clampitt**. Excuse me. It says "the accountant's statement or a completed financial report." Madam Commander, I move that we change the word "or" there to the word "and" so it says "the accountant's statement and."

Ms. **Lucille McCarthy**. Lucille McCarthy, Tampa #4. This clearly states you send one or the other. Some accountants fill out the financial statement from National. Some do their own thing and file their own accountant's statement. So it's one or the other is to be filled out by the accountant if your gross income is over $25,000.

Commander **Allred**. Do you understand that? [Applause.] We still have that motion on the floor. There is a motion on the floor to drop "or" and add "and." Does the motion have a second? It's lost for want of a second.

We will now go on to the main motion. The main motion has been made and seconded. Is there any further discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker**. Page U-10, Article VII, Section 7, amend to read:

> No local unit of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary shall conduct any fund-raising activity without prior written approval of the chapter with which it is affiliated and when required written approval by the DAV state department. If there is no state department, written approval must be obtained from the DAV National Executive Committee.

Madam Commander, I move for the acceptance of this amendment.

Commander **Allred**. It has been moved to accept this amendment. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Vicki Oneal**. Vicki Oneal from Lakewood Unit 19, California. I second that motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker**. Next are the proposed standard state department Bylaws.

ARTICLE I—STATE ORGANIZATION

Section 1: Administration

This state department is organized with the specific consent and recognition of the parent organization and shall be governed by these standard state Bylaws, supplement to state Bylaws, and the National Constitution and Bylaws of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary.

Madam Commander, I move for the acceptance of this article.

Commander **Allred**. It has been moved to accept this article. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Linda Riley**. Madam Commander, Linda Riley, Department of Indiana. I second the motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker** [reading]:

ARTICLE II—STATE CONVENTION

Section 1: Governing Power

The governing power of this state department shall be the state convention to be held annually at a time and place selected by the state department of the Disabled American Veterans.

The state commander and state adjutant shall provide the call for the annual convention, credentials and all matters pertaining to the state convention not specifically covered by these standard state department Bylaws and Convention Rules.

Madam Commander, I move for the acceptance of Section Number 1.

Commander **Allred**. It has been moved to accept Section Number 1. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Virginia Merrifield**. Virginia Merrifield, 13th District NEC, seconds that.

Commander **Allred**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker** [reading]:

Section 2: Composition

The state convention shall be composed of the elected state officers, the past state commanders, any active resident Past National Commander, the state executive committeewomen and the delegates or alternates representing chartered units within the state.

Madam Commander, I move for the acceptance of Section Number 2.

Commander **Allred**. It has been moved to accept Section Number 2. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Louise Barile**. Louise Barile, Unit 73, New Jersey, seconds the motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker** [reading]:

Section 3: Delegates

Each elected state officer, each state executive committeewoman, each past state commander and each active resident Past National Commander shall be entitled to one vote provided that their current membership dues have been received by National Headquarters prior to April 1.

Each unit shall be entitled to one delegate and one alternate for its charter and one delegate and one alternate for each ten senior members or major fraction thereof whose membership dues have been received by National Headquarters prior to the end of each state department's fiscal year.

A delegate or alternate to a state convention shall not be allowed to vote until she is properly registered, dues paid for the convention year, has received the membership obligation and is not indebted to the organization.

A member shall not cast a vote in the state convention in more than one representative capacity, or be registered as a delegate from more than one unit. In the absence of a unit delegate or state executive committeewoman, her vote shall be cast by her respective alternate.

Each unit delegation shall elect a chairman who votes the total unit strength. When a poll of any delegation is demanded by a delegate entitled to vote, the chairman shall poll the delegation without discussion or debate.

Junior members and state and National at large members do not have the privilege of voting at state convention.

Chartered units must be in good standing with state for their delegates to vote at state convention.

Madam Commander, I move for the acceptance of this section.

Commander **Allred**. It has been moved to accept this section. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Barbara Przybylski**. Madam Commander, Barbara Przybylski, Unit 51, Wisconsin, seconds the motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker** [reading]:

Section 4: State Convention Rules

Convention rules shall govern the procedure of a state convention. Such rules shall be adopted or may be amended at the first business session by a majority vote of the convention delegates.

Madam Commander, I move for the adoption of this section.

Commander **Allred**. It has been moved to adopt this section. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Jeanne Zwick**. Jeanne Zwick, Department of Pennsylvania. I second this motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker** [reading]:

ARTICLE III—STATE OFFICERS

Section 1: Elected State Officers

The state convention shall elect a state commander, a state senior vice-commander, a state first junior vice-commander, a state chaplain, a state treasurer and a state judge advocate. If deemed desirable, a state second junior vice-commander, a state third junior vice-commander and a state fourth junior vice-commander may be elected and National Headquarters so advised on the supplement to state Bylaws.

Madam Commander, I move for the acceptance of this section.

Commander **Allred**. It has been moved to accept this section. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Barbara Hammond**. Madam Commander, Barbara Hammond, Department of Connecticut, seconds this motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Yes, ma'am. Just a minute. The Chair recognizes Past National Commander Catherine Early.

Ms. **Catherine Early**. Madam Commander, Past National Commander Catherine Early, spokesperson for the State of Texas. We wish to be recognized. I do not know whether this in my mind, I shall say, this is the proper place for an amendment to be made. If it is not, I would appreciate the Judge Advocate ruling in order that if I need to place it in another I shall.

There are not too many states the size of Texas—over 800 miles north to south, over 800 miles from east to west. I am told that if this goes where the adjutant treasurer is not a combined officer, which we have used since our organization began and we do not have a blemish, that communication will take care of it.

May I explain a bit about communication within the State of Texas?

Commander **Allred**. Yes, ma'am, you have the floor.

Ms. **Early**. The telephone calls within our state of Texas are over ten times that which is any even neighboring state. This runs into money if our communication has to be done primarily by telephone all over the state.

We are wishing that we might make an amendment to show that if deemed advisable that the adjutant treasurer office may be combined.

Commander **Allred**. Are you requesting an opinion from the Judge Advocate at this point? Or are you wanting to make a motion to amend?

Ms. **Early**. I would like an opinion that this is not going to be thrown off the floor for a vote.

Commander **Allred**. Okay, we will refer to the Judge Advocate for——

Ms. **Early**. That's exactly what I'm trying to get. I do not want to make it—in other words, in my opinion, if I do not make the motion now, you have settled on the elective officers and making the adjutant appointive, which we would prefer not to be.

Now, we are understanding that there's some three or four that still hold to this standard of a combined office. We would prefer, since we have lived all these years without blemish, that we might continue with a combined office. Is it permissible and will it stay on the floor as an amendment?

Commander **Allred**. Catherine, what you're referring to is covered down at the bottom of the page. And this is where you should make your motion to amend it. It says in Section 3 at the bottom of the page.

Ms. **Early**. Section 3 in the bottom.

Commander **Allred**. Yes.

Ms. **Early**. Thank you very much.

Commander **Allred**. You could make your amendment there if you'd like.

Ms. **Early**. Thank you very much.

Commander **Allred**. Do we have any further discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. The motion is carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker** [reading]:

SECTION 2: APPOINTED STATE OFFICERS

The state commander, with the approval of the state executive committee, shall appoint a state adjutant, a state sergeant at arms, and may appoint any additional state officers when deemed necessary.

Madam Commander, I move for the approval of Section Number 2.

Commander **Allred**. It is moved to approve Section Number 2. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Linda Riley**. Linda Riley, Department of Indiana, seconds the motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker** [reading]:

SECTION 3: ELIGIBILITY FOR STATE OFFICE

Only members in good standing in a chartered unit for the past 12 months shall be eligible to serve as an elected or appointed state officer.

A member shall not be eligible to election as state commander until she has served as a state officer.

Elected National Officers, the Immediate Past National Commander, and National Executive Committeewomen shall not be eligible to serve simultaneously as state commander.

No member shall hold more than one state office, elective or appointive. This restriction does not apply to positions of committee chairmen, committee members, or state executive committeewomen.

Madam Commander, I move for the acceptance of this Section Number 3.

Commander **Allred**. It has been moved to accept Section Number 3. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Ehring Seetoo**. Ehring Seetoo, Unit 64, California, seconds it.

Commander **Allred**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion?

Ms. **Seetoo**. Yes, ma'am. Ehring Seetoo, Unit 64, California. I would like to amend the second paragraph, "A member shall not be eligible to election as a state commander until she has served as an elected state officer." I so move.

Ms. **Carol Gray**. I'll second that.

Commander **Allred**. There is a motion on the floor.

Ms. **Gallagher**. Rosemary Gallagher, Department of Nebraska.

Commander **Allred**. Would you hold just one moment. We have a motion on the floor. Ehring Seetoo made the motion, Carol Gray made the second, to insert "elected" before "state" in Paragraph Number 2. The motion does have a second.

Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question to this amendment to the motion? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. The motion is carried.

We go back to the original discussion of the main motion. Past National Commander Catherine Early.

Ms. **Catherine Early**. Madam Commander, I believe it's time now for me to make my motion.

Commander **Allred**. Yes, ma'am, it is.

Ms. **Early**. Poor old Texas, way down Texas way, we have to fight. No, we are very, very sincere in this particular amendment that we are concerned about. Where the others can live with them separated, this is great, we have no objection. But we would like to have the privilege. If we ever do wrong tell us, we'll do to mind you. We never, never want to go against the Constitution.

I wish to make the motion that if deemed desirable the state adjutant treasurer's position or office may be combined.

Ms. **Louise Rapisand**. Louise Rapisand, Borderline Unit #10, seconds the motion.

Commander **Allred**. Catherine, do I understand that you want your motion to read, "No member shall hold more than one state office, elected or appointed, with the exception of that of adjutant and treasurer"?

Ms. **Early**. Yes, ma'am. Yes, ma'am, please. If we may just keep our combined office of adjutant treasurer we'll just go away happy, happy, happy. We'll be the old cowboy and ride off to the west!

Commander **Allred**. Okay, we have an amendment to this amendment. It is, "No member shall hold more than one state office, elected or appointed, with the exception of that of adjutant and treasurer." Is that correct?

Member. She means which may be combined.

Commander **Allred**. Yes. Well, we're going to get this out of the way, just wanted to make sure it's right. We're going to get it right for you, Catherine.

Member. How about if it was worded the way it was prior to that at times——

Commander **Allred**. That's exactly what we're getting at right here, Carol. "No member shall hold more than one state office, elected or appointed, with the exception in those departments which combine the office of adjutant and treasurer." [Applause.] All right. The motion does have a second.

Is there any further discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried. [Applause.]

Okay, we're going to vote to adopt the rest of this main motion Loneita made. Of course, these amendments will be entailed in it. The motion has been made, has a second.

Is there any discussion on any of the other paragraphs? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. The motion is carried, it's adopted as amended.

Ms. **Shoemaker** [reading]:

ARTICLE IV—DUTIES OF STATE OFFICERS

SECTION 1: STATE COMMANDER

The executive power of the state department shall be vested in the state commander.

The state commander, in addition to other duties or powers set forth in these Bylaws, shall be the presiding officer of the Auxiliary state convention, state executive committee meetings, and other state meetings.

She shall appoint the state chairmen of the following committees: Americanism, Community Service, History, Hospital, Junior Activities, Legislation, and Membership. She may also appoint such other chairmen as deemed necessary.

All appointments of the state commander must be approved by the state executive committee and provided for in the state Standing Rules.

Madam Commander, I move for the adoption of Section Number 1.

Commander ALLRED. It has been moved to adopt Section Number 1. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. JUDY STEINHOUSE. Judy Steinhouse, Unit #8, North Dakota. I move that we second the motion.

Commander ALLRED. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question?

Ms. MELBA MORGAN. Madam Commander, haven't you omitted VAVS?

Commander ALLRED. We haven't got to that yet, I don't believe.

Ms. MORGAN. Well, it says "shall be the following appointments: Americanism, Community Service, History, Hospital, Junior Activities, Legislation, and Membership." Shouldn't VAVS be in there also?

Ms. SHOEMAKER. Melba, recognize yourself for the record.

Ms. MORGAN. Melba Morgan, NEC of the 16th District.

Ms. SHOEMAKER. That may come under "She may also appoint such other chairmen as deemed necessary."

Ms. MORGAN. Okay, I'm sorry.

Commander ALLRED. Any further discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. The motion carried.

Ms. SHOEMAKER [reading]:

SECTION 2: STATE SENIOR VICE-COMMANDER

The state senior vice-commander shall assume such duties as assigned by the state commander. In the absence of the state commander she shall serve in her stead.

In the absence of the state treasurer or state commander she shall sign or co-sign state department checks.

Madam Commander, I move for the acceptance of Section Number 2.

Commander ALLRED. It has been moved to accept Section Number 2. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. VICKI ONEAL. Vicki Oneal from Lakewood Unit 19, California. I second that motion.

Commander ALLRED. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. SHOEMAKER [reading]:

SECTION 3: STATE JUNIOR VICE-COMMANDER(S)

State junior vice-commander(s) shall be responsible for Auxiliary programs as designated in the state Standing Rules.

Madam Commander, I move for the adoption of Section Number 3.

Commander **Allred**. It is moved to adopt Section Number 3. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Josephine Ricciardi**. Madam Commander, Josephine Ricciardi, Unit 26, New Jersey, seconds the motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker** [reading]:

Section 4: State Chaplain

The state chaplain shall serve as spiritual leader in a nonsectarian role as described in the Official Ritual of the organization. She shall recite or lead invocations and benedictions where such prayers are offered at the opening and closing of meetings or other events.

Madam Commander, I move for the acceptance of Section Number 4.

Commander **Allred**. It has been moved to accept Section Number 4. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Marge Davies**. Marge Davies, Alliance, Ohio, 50. I second that.

Commander **Allred**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker** [reading]:

Section 5: State Treasurer

The state treasurer shall keep a complete financial record of all monies received, expended and remitted. All monies must be deposited in the name of the state department.

She shall sign all state department checks and pay out money only on properly prepared warrants/vouchers/check requests as provided in the state budget, by the finance committee, or by vote of the state convention or executive committee.

The state treasurer shall give an itemized report of receipts and expenditures at each state executive committee meeting.

She shall submit her records to a state audit committee or to an independent or certified public accountant.

Madam Commander, I move for the acceptance of this Section Number 5.

Commander **Allred**. It has been moved to accept Section Number 5. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Selma Abramovitz**. Selma Abramovitz, Lakewood 19.

Commander **Allred**. Do you second that motion?

Ms. **Abramovitz**. I second the motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion has a second. Is there any discussion?

Ms. **Ruth Ike**. Madam Chairman, I would like a clarification——

Commander **Allred**. Excuse me. Would you please state your name?

Ms. **Ike**. Yes, dear. Ruth Ike, Department of Michigan finance board. Would you clarify the second paragraph where it reads "or by vote of the state convention or executive committee"?

Commander **Allred**. I'll refer this to the chairman of the Constitution and Bylaws for their rationale.

Ms. **Ike**. Thank you.

Ms. **Shoemaker**. The second paragraph, is that the one you are questioning?

Ms. **Ike**. Yes.

Ms. **Shoemaker**. My interpretation of this—and if I am incorrect, somebody please tell me—but I would think that if there was anything that you were voting on from the convention floor of monies to be spent or coming out of the executive committee, you may do so.

Ms. **Ike**. But what if that is not provided for in the budget?

Ms. **Shoemaker**. All right, Lucille is going to——

Ms. **Lucille McCarthy**. Madam Commander, Lucille McCarthy, Tampa #4. If you adopt a budget and if you have something that states you can't change the bottom line and something exceptional comes along which you hadn't planned for—such as buying some new equipment, donating some money to a hospital, et cetera—you need to either get the executive committee's permission between state conventions or you need to have a vote of the state convention. It's just as simple as that.

Once you adopt a budget, unless you have provision that can be changed you have to live by that budget and anything that's not provided in that budget must—and if you want to spend some money you must get approval from some place. And that's your executive committee or convention.

Ms. **Ike**. Fine, that clarifies it.

Commander **Allred**. Is there any further discussion?

Ms. **Beatrice Vieira**. Beatrice Vieira, Fremont North 77, California. There's a question on the wording "She shall sign all the department checks," but up above the senior vice can sign if she's not there. So how could she sign all the checks if she's not there when the other one—"shall sign all of them."

And when you say "shall," it means she has to. But if she's not there it says the senior vice and the commander can sign the checks. This says she has to sign all the checks.

Ms. **Shoemaker**. It's a two-signature check so two of them can sign. So with a two-signature check if she has a check signed and then either one or the other can sign beside her. But she has to have her name on all the checks. And, Bea, you're saying that you think it should read "She shall sign state department checks"?

Ms. **Vieira**. No. You have that she has to sign them all.

Ms. **Shoemaker**. I know. I'm saying are you saying that you wish the "all" to be erased?

Ms. **Vieira**. Well, I'm just questioning how we can do it. Because "In the absence of the state treasurer or state commander she shall co-sign," that's the senior vice-commander. And then further on you say the treasurer has to sign all the checks.

So in one saying you're saying on Section 2 the senior vice shall, in the absence of the treasurer she can sign a check. Further on down you say the treasurer has to sign all the checks. That's what I'm questioning.

Commander **Allred**. Bea, we recognize your point. But you're just discussing it. Are you wanting to do anything further on this amendment than discuss it?

Ms. **Vieira**. I just wanted to know how we can get around that. You know, it's kind of a legal technicality there.

Commander **Allred**. Are you trying to say that she shall sign all checks, if you would leave the word "all" out that would solve the problem?

Ms. **Vicki Oneal**. I'd like to make a motion to leave out the word—I'm sorry, this is Vicki Oneal from the State of California. I'd like to make a motion to delete the word "all."

Commander **Allred**. There's a motion on the floor to delete the word "all."

Ms. **Ehring Seetoo**. Ehring Seetoo, Unit 64, California. I second that motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion?

Ms. **Maureen Daniels**. Maureen Daniels, 73, California. I believe that a good way to put it, "she may sign state department checks"—when you're saying "shall" you're saying she has to do it—and leave out the word "all," instead of "shall" say "may." No?

Commander **Allred**. Is there any further discussion?

Ms. **Joan Fletcher**. Joan Fletcher, treasurer for the Department of Arizona. Are you trying to say that if the treasurer is out of state or something that the commander and the senior vice-commander can write checks, is that——

Commander **Allred**. That's what has been stated previously.

Ms. **Fletcher**. Well, I think that's the way it's really always been.

Commander **Allred**. Is there any further discussion? We do have a motion and a second on the floor that we have to act on. The motion is an amendment to the amendment. It was to delete the word "all" before "state department." It has been seconded.

We have had discussion. Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. The motion is carried.

Ms. **Sally Wilton**. Madam Commander.

Commander **Allred**. Yes, the Chair recognizes Past National Commander Sally Wilton.

Ms. **Wilton**. I would like to have the Nominating Committee excused now.

Commander **Allred**. Nominating Committee, by request of the chairman, Sally Wilton, you are excused.

We will now vote on the main motion that was made by the chairman of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee. It has been amended. The motion has a second.

Is there any further discussion on any part of it? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. The motion is carried as amended.

Ms. **Shoemaker**. Section Number 6——

Commander **Allred**. You are requested to remain silent for the remainder of the Constitution and Bylaws. The only ones that have been excused to go ahead and leave are the Nominating Committee. If anybody else—we do have ingress and egress at our National Convention—I request that you do it quietly for the remainder of the people that are going through the Constitution and Bylaws.

Ms. **Shoemaker** [reading]:

SECTION 6: STATE JUDGE ADVOCATE

The state judge advocate shall be the legal advisor to the state commander. She shall upon request of the state commander render her opinion on all questions arising in the state department and on interunit disputes.

The state judge advocate shall render an opinion on questions of parliamentary procedure at all sessions of the state convention, state executive committee meetings and other state meetings.

All opinions of the state judge advocate shall be advisory only.

Madam Commander, I move for the acceptance of Section Number 6.

Commander **ALLRED**. It has been moved to accept Section Number 6. Does it have a second?

Ms. **EVELYN DORSEY**. Evelyn Dorsey, Department of the District of Columbia. So move.

Commander **ALLRED**. The motion has a second. Is there any discussion?

Ms. **RUTH IKE**. Madam Commander, Madam Chairman, Ruth Ike, Michigan. "She shall upon request of the state commander render her opinion on all questions arising in the state department and on interunit," between units or within the unit, "intraunit"—what is the intent?

Commander **ALLRED**. It is "intra," it is within the unit.

Ms. **IKE**. It should be changed. I make a motion that we change "interunit" to "intraunit."

Commander **ALLRED**. There is a motion on the floor to amend "interunit" to "intraunit." Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **VERNA ORADEI**. Madam Chairman, Verna Oradei, Department of Michigan, so seconds.

Commander **ALLRED**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question to amend the amendment? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. The motion is carried.

We will now go to the original motion made by the Constitution and Bylaws chairman. It has been moved and seconded. Is there any further discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **SHOEMAKER** [reading]:

SECTION 7: STATE ADJUTANT

The state adjutant shall be the secretary of the state department and shall be responsible for all administrative affairs.

She shall attend and keep a record of all proceedings of the state convention, state executive committee meetings and other state meetings, but shall have no vote thereat.

The state adjutant shall also assume such other duties as may be assigned by the state commander.

The state adjutant in office at the time of the state convention shall be responsible for submitting to National Headquarters within 30 days after the adjournment of the state convention the following: (a) state financial report or accountant's statement; (b) state budget adopted at convention; (c) state officers report; (d) supplement to state Bylaws; (e) adopted or amended state Standing Rules. Failure to comply with the above will bar the delegate from voting at the following National Convention.

The state adjutant shall also be responsible for sending to National Headquarters: (a) within five days after close of state convention, the winning program reports, by categories, judged at state convention; (b) (if filed) a copy of IRS Form 990.

Madam Commander, I move for the acceptance of Section Number 7.

Commander **Allred**. It has been moved to accept Section Number 7. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Barbara Przybylski**. Madam Commander, Barbara Przybylski, Unit 51, Wisconsin, seconds the motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion has a second. Is there any discussion?

Ms. **Sophia Mate**. Madam Commander. I'm Sophia Mate from New Jersey 41. Do I understand the state adjutant does not have a vote at a convention where she is a delegate? It needs to be clarified.

Ms. **Shoemaker**. Sophia, it was clarified in an earlier amendment on who had votes at the state convention.

Ms. **Mate**. Well, here it says the state adjutant does not have a vote.

Ms. **Shoemaker**. That's right, but——

Ms. **Mate**. According to this it reads that the state adjutant "shall keep a record of all proceedings of the state convention, state executive committee meetings and other state meetings, but shall have no vote thereat." And she's a past department commander and she's a state adjutant, she should have a vote.

Ms. **Lucille McCarthy**. No, Madam Commander. Lucille McCarthy, Tampa #4. As a past department commander she would have a vote. But it states, we had already adopted under Article II, Section 3, delegates at a state convention:

> Each elected state officer, each state executive committeewoman, each past state commander and each active resident Past National Commander shall be entitled to one vote provided that their current membership dues have been received by National Headquarters prior to April 1.

That does not provide for appointed department officers to have a vote.

Ms. **Shoemaker**. Sophia, that was the one that I was referring to earlier that we had approved that, we had adopted it.

Ms. **Mate**. Oh, okay.

Commander **Allred**. Is there any further discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. The motion is carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker**[reading]:

SECTION 8: STATE SERGEANT AT ARMS

> The state sergeant at arms shall tend strictly to the preservation of order on the floor of the state convention, state executive committee meetings and other state meetings. She shall also perform such other duties as may be required of her.

Madam Commander, I move for the acceptance of Section Number 8.

Commander **Allred**. It has been moved for the acceptance of Section Number 8. Does the motion have a second? Jeanne Zwick has the mike first.

Ms. **Jeanne Zwick**. Jeanne Zwick, Department of Pennsylvania. I second that motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker** [reading]:

ARTICLE V—TENURE OF OFFICE

SECTION 1: ELECTED STATE OFFICERS

Each elected state officer shall serve until the adjournment of the succeeding state convention or thereafter until her successor is installed.

In the case of the removal of the state commander from office, or of her death, resignation or inability to discharge the duties of her office, the same shall devolve upon the state senior vice-commander.

In the case of the removal, death, resignation or inability of both the state commander and senior vice-commander, the duties of the office shall devolve upon the office of the state first junior vice-commander.

In the case of the removal, death, resignation or inability of the lowest ranking state junior vice-commander, state chaplain, state treasurer or the state judge advocate to discharge the duties of her office, the state commander shall, with the concurrence by majority vote of the state executive committee, appoint a successor to fill these vacancies.

Madam Commander, I move for the adoption of Section Number 1.

Commander **ALLRED**. It has been moved to adopt Section Number 1. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **MAXINE THOMAS**. Maxine Thomas, Unit 46, Ohio. I second that.

Commander **ALLRED**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **SHOEMAKER** [reading]:

SECTION 2: STATE APPOINTMENTS

Each state appointee shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing power immediately following approval of such appointment by the state executive committee and provided that no term of office shall exceed that of the appointing power.

Madam Commander, I move for the acceptance of Section Number 2.

Commander **ALLRED**. It has been moved to accept Section Number 2. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **LINDA BARBEE**. Linda Barbee, 27, North Carolina. I second the motion.

Commander **ALLRED**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **SHOEMAKER** [reading]:

ARTICLE VI—STATE COMMITTEES

SECTION 1: STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The state executive committee shall be composed of the state commander, state senior vice-commander, each of the state junior vice-commanders, the immediate past state commander, any active resident Past National Commander if so desired, and one state executive committeewoman or alternate elected by each unit. One-third of all eligible voting members of the state executive committee shall constitute a quorum.

All state executive committeewomen and alternates shall be installed during the state executive committee meeting following the state convention. Those state executive committeewomen and alternates not in attendance at state convention may be installed at another time and place by a proper installing officer.

The term of office for state executive committeewomen and alternates shall be the same as state officers.

The state executive committee shall have full administrative power between state conventions. Business of the state department requiring consideration of the state executive committee between designated or called meetings shall be transacted through the office of the state adjutant by means of mail ballots. A majority of replies to the mail ballots received by the designated date shall constitute the decision of said committee.

The state executive committee shall meet at the call of the state commander. One meeting shall be held prior to each state convention and one following each state convention. Additional meetings may be called, with sufficient notice, by the state commander or upon written request by seven members of the state executive committee.

Madam Commander, I move for the acceptance of Section Number 1.

Commander **Allred**. It has been moved to accept Section Number 1. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Linda Riley**. Linda Riley, Department of Indiana, seconds the motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion has a second. Is there any discussion?

Ms. **Lucy Davis**. Madam Commander, Lucy Davis, Department of Maryland. I'd like to make the amendment to include the following, "A state executive committeewoman or alternate is not considered a state officer. She represents her unit on the state executive committee."

Commander **Allred**. Where would you like that to be placed?

Ms. **Davis**. You can place it at the end if you'd like. Just add it to it.

Commander **Allred**. Would you please repeat it again for the delegates?

Ms. **Davis**. "A state executive committeewoman or alternate is not considered a state officer. She represents her unit on the state executive committee." That's found on Page N–22, second paragraph from the bottom.

Commander **Allred**. The chairman of the Constitution and Bylaws would like to address that, please.

Ms. **Shoemaker**. On the placement of this would it not be better to place it right after or before "The term of office for state executive committeewomen and alternates shall be the same as state officers"? Either before or after, in order to keep it in order.

Ms. **Davis**. That would be fine with me.

Ms. **Shoemaker**. Which would you prefer? I would think it should be before.

Ms. **Davis**. Then let's place it before.

Commander **Allred**. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Verna Oradei**. Madam Chairman, Verna Oradei, Department of Michigan, seconds that motion.

Commander **Allred**. The Judge Advocate would like to have something to say.

Judge Advocate **McGinnis**. The phrase that you wanted to include in that is included in the National Bylaws on Page N–22. I don't believe it's necessary to have it in both places.

Ms. **Davis**. Okay, as long as it's not going to be changed.

Judge Advocate **McGinnis**. No, that part is not changed.

Ms. **Davis**. All right, thank you.

Commander **Allred**. We still have that motion on the floor. It still belongs to you because it has not been stated by the Chair. Would you so like to withdraw it? Or do you want it to go through?

Ms. **Davis**. I will withdraw it.

Commander **Allred**. You do withdraw the motion?

Ms. **Davis**. Right. Thank you.

Commander **Allred**. Thank you. We have a motion on the floor and a second. Do we have any further discussion for this amendment?

Ms. **Donna Sanders**. Madam Commander, Donna Sanders, Unit 20, Glendale, Arizona. Paragraph 2 states "All executive committeewomen and alternates shall be installed during the state executive committee meeting following the state convention."

In Arizona we have always installed all of our officers and SEC in a joint installation with the men. This would disallow us from holding that installation. I would recommend the state——

Commander **Allred**. This would limit you to installing them at the post-executive committee meeting.

Ms. **Sanders**. I would like to amend Paragraph 2 to read "All state executive committeewomen and alternates shall be installed following their election."

Commander **Allred**. You would like to amend it to read "All state executive committeewomen and alternates shall be installed following their election" and strike out the remainder of the sentence that was read? Is that what——

Ms. **Sanders**. Yes. And then continue on with "Those state executive committeewomen and alternates not in attendance." That would allow for you to install them at the post-SEC but it would also allow you to install them at that session if you chose to.

Commander **Allred**. There is a motion on the floor to amend the second paragraph of Section 1 to read "All state executive committeewomen and alternates shall be installed following their election" period. And then it would go on to "Those state executive committeewomen and alternates not in attendance at state convention may be installed at another time and place by a proper installing officer." Is that correct?

Does the motion have a second? The motion had died for want of a second.

Ms. **Susan McAnany**. Commander Shelia, I was on my way up to second the motion.

Ms. **Lucy Davis**. Lucy Davis, Department of Maryland. I'll second that motion.

Commander **Allred**. Okay, the motion does have a second.

Ms. **McAnany**. And may I have a question on that motion?

Commander **Allred**. Is there any discussion?

Ms. **McAnany**. Sue McAnany, Unit 51 in Dearborn. I just want to clarify in my own mind what she's saying. In other words, you're talking about the election of your state executive committeewomen and that they're being installed at the unit at a joint installation; is that correct?

Commander **Allred**. State.

Ms. **McAnany**. Your state convention has a joint installation?

Ms. **Sanders**. Yes, ma'am.

Ms. **McAnany**. That's what you're saying?

Ms. **Sanders**. The way this initially read was that they would have to be installed at your post-SEC meeting at convention, where we choose to install all of our department officers and SEC at the same time either during convention or at a joint installation with the men's organization.

Ms. McAnany. Oh, I see.

Ms. Sanders. So this would not limit us to adjourning our convention, going into the post-SEC and then installing. We do it so that their families can be there for their installation also.

Ms. McAnany. But wouldn't that also open it up to mean that they could be installed at their own unit installation by a proper officer?

Ms. Sanders. No, ma'am. Elsewhere in the Bylaws it tells you who can install an SEC. And the SEC is not installed at your unit meeting.

Ms. McAnany. Well, a lot of times though the installing officer at their unit installation——

Commander Allred. You have to limit your time of discussion. The National Judge Advocate would like to comment on this.

Judge Advocate McGinnis. When a state executive committeewoman is elected, she is elected to serve all through the convention. I believe, Donna, that you said you may install them during the convention, like at the last day? Then the new incoming officers must be installed after the convention is closed. The SECs have to be SECs through the convention until the convention closes. They don't take office until after the convention is closed.

Ms. Betty Boyd. That's correct, Lee. What we do, we adjourn the meeting, the men adjourn their meeting. We have a joint installation immediately after our convention and then go into post-SEC meeting.

Judge Advocate McGinnis. That was Betty Boyd that was just speaking. The statement Donna made was that they installed them during the convention. They cannot be installed until after the convention closes.

Commander Allred. A motion has been made. It does have a second. Do you understand the motion? Would you like for me to read it again?

"All state executive committeewomen and alternates shall be installed following their election" period. Then it would go on to "Those state executive committeewomen and alternates not in attendance at state convention may be installed at another time and place by a proper installing officer."

Is there any further discussion? Are you ready for the question?

Ms. Jackie Fossiano. I have a question, please, on the first paragraph—Jackie Fossiano, District 1—the first paragraph, "The state executive committee shall be composed of"——

Commander Allred. Excuse me, Jackie. We are on the second paragraph now. We have to act on it before we can——

Ms. Fossiano. Sorry.

Commander Allred. Are you ready for the question on the second paragraph?

Ms. Verna Oradei. Excuse me, please, Madam Chairman. You are elected by your unit. How can you be installed immediately following your election? You cannot be installed until the——

Commander Allred. What is your name?

Ms. Oradei. Verna Oradei, Department of Michigan. Sorry.

Commander Allred. The amendment did not say immediately.

Ms. **Oradei**. I understood it to read "following their election." And their election is usually a month or so before the convention. My understanding is that this could not take place until after the election, but the way the amendment is read does not state this.

Ms. **Donna Sanders**. Madam Commander, Donna Sanders, Glendale Unit 20. May I withdraw that motion?

Commander **Allred**. Since it has been stated by the chairman you shouldn't, unless we get the majority vote of the delegates. All in favor for her to withdraw the motion say Aye. All opposed. You may withdraw it.

Ms. **Sanders**. Madam Commander, may I make a motion that Paragraph 2 begin with "All state executive committeewomen and alternates shall be installed following the state convention" period? And then go on with the second sentence.

Commander **Allred**. The motion on the floor is "All state executive committeewomen and alternates shall be installed following the state convention" period. And you go on to the next sentence. Does this motion have a second?

Ms. **Verna Oradei**. Madam Commander, Verna Oradei, Department of Michigan, seconds that motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. The motion is carried.

Ms. **Jackie Fossiano**. Jackie Fossiano from District 1. I have a question on the first paragraph, "State Executive Committee." I would like to add after the state junior vice-commanders and immediate past state commanders, treasurer and judge advocate. I suggest the treasurer and not the judge advocate.

Commander **Allred**. Would you please, if you would like to do it you need to put it in the form of a motion.

Ms. **Fossiano**. Jackie Fossiano, District 1.

> The state executive committee shall be composed of the state commander, state senior vice-commander, each of the state junior vice-commanders, the immediate past state commander and treasurer and any active resident Past National Commander if so desired, and one state executive committeewoman or alternate elected by each unit. One-third of all eligible voting members of the state executive committee shall constitute a quorum.

Commander **Allred**. There is a motion on the floor. Does everybody understand the motion? She is adding "and state treasurer" after "past state commander." Is that correct, Jackie?

Ms. **Fossiano**. Yes.

Commander **Allred**. Does the motion have a second?

Senior Vice-Commander **Vinson**. Madam Commander, Myrtice Vinson, National Senior Vice-Commander, seconds the motion.

Commander **Allred**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. The motion is carried to the amendment.

Is there any further discussion on any other portions of this section before we vote on the main motion by the Constitution and Bylaws chairman? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **Shoemaker** [reading]:

SECTION 2: STATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

The state finance committee shall consist of at least three and no more than five members elected from various units in the state. The number of members serving on the committee shall be provided in the supplement to state Bylaws. Not more than one member from the same unit shall be elected to serve on the committee. Vacancies shall be filled with an appointment made by the state commander and approved by the state executive committee.

The state finance committee shall supervise and approve all revenue, expenditures and investments of the state department between state conventions. They shall audit the records of the DAVA-VAVS representative(s) and associate representative(s) annually.

The state finance committee shall prepare a budget which shall be submitted and distributed to the state convention delegates for adoption.

Madam Commander, I move for the acceptance of Section Number 2, State Finance Committee.

Commander ALLRED. It has been moved for acceptance of Section Number 2, State Finance Committee. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. LINDA BARBEE. Linda Barbee, North Carolina 27. I second that motion.

Commander ALLRED. The motion has a second. Is there any discussion?

Ms. MIRIAM DALEY. Madam Commander, Miriam Daley, Unit 27, Massachusetts. I would like to see it changed from at least three to seven members due to the fact that sometimes a quorum of the members can't get together in order to have a full committee. And also on Line 4, "not more than one member of the same unit," I'd like to see added there "district or region shall be elected to serve on the committee."

Commander ALLRED. If you want the delegates to act on it you have to put it in the form of a motion.

Ms. DALEY. I make a motion that it be at least three and not more than seven members and not more than one member from the same unit, region or district shall serve on the committee.

Commander ALLRED. Does everyone understand the motion? She is changing it to read "three and no more than seven members elected from various units in the state. The number of members serving on the committee shall be provided in the supplement to state Bylaws. Not more than one member from the same unit, region or district shall be elected to serve on the committee." Is that correct?

Ms. DALEY. Yes.

Ms. ELVA JOHNSON. Madam Commander, question.

Commander ALLRED. Does the motion have a second? We have to get a second before it can be discussed. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. VERNA ORADEI. Madam Chairman, Verna Oradei from the Department of Michigan seconds that motion.

Commander ALLRED. The motion does have a second. Now it's open for discussion.

Ms. JOHNSON. Madam Commander, Elva Johnson, alternate NEC from Illinois. What about the states that only have three districts? What do you plan with us? I don't think "districts" should be in it. That would limit our state to three members on it.

Commander **Allred**. You are saying that your state only has three districts, regions, or zones and that would limit you to only three members on the committee?

Ms. **Johnson**. Right. I don't think that "districts" should be in it.

Commander **Allred**. Any further discussion?

Ms. **Lucille McCarthy**. Madam Commander, Lucille McCarthy, Tampa #4. Districts, regions, or zones are made up of what? They're made up of units. Therefore I believe "units" cover very adequately what is necessary as far as selecting members on a finance committee. So I would—well, I can't make a motion because there's a motion on the floor.

I would move that we amend the present amendment on the floor to read that there would be at least three and no more than seven and leave the rest of the amendment as it stands.

Commander **Allred**. We now have an amendment to the amendment to the amendment.

Ms. **Daley**. May I just clarify, Madam Commander, one point? I was not aware of the fact that some states regardless of their size only have three districts and some other do have more than that.

Commander **Allred**. Some states don't have districts.

Ms. **Daley**. Right, regions and zones. That's why I wanted to add that. But I wasn't aware that there were only three. Would you like for me to remake my motion?

Commander **Allred**. No, we are onto another.

Ms. **Iris Brzezinski**. Iris Brzezinski, Department of Nevada. And I will second that amendment to the amendment.

Commander **Allred**. Do you understand? All right, I'm going to through this for you. Loneita originally made the motion to adopt this section. Then there was an amendment made to change it from three to five members and add regions, zones or districts. Lucille has come up and made an amendment to Miriam's amendment. She has amended it to delete that regions or districts. Therefore, it would be three and no more than seven would be the only correction.

Now, once we vote on this, if we correct it and delete regions and districts, we would vote then on Miriam's, which would make the seven members instead of five. The amendment had already been passed to delete the other portion, so hers would carry for the seven members and then we would go back and adopt the original motion as amended. Okay?

Okay, the motion has a second. Is there any further discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. The amendment to the amendment to the amendment is carried.

Now is there any further discussion on the first amendment that Miriam put on the floor? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. That motion is carried.

Now is there any discussion to the rest of the section? We have cleared up those two pending amendments. Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. The motion is carried. The only thing that was changed in that was seven members instead of five. Okay? But we did the right procedure on it.

Ms. **Shoemaker** [reading]:

SECTION 3: STATE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The committee on nomination of state officers shall consist of members elected from various units in the state. No two members from the same unit shall be elected to serve on this committee. The state Standing Rules shall provide for the procedures of the committee. The number of members shall be provided in the supplement to state Bylaws.

This committee shall consider and present to the state convention a slate of candidates which it shall nominate as state officers. Nominations may also be made from the floor.

Madam Commander, I move for the adoption of Section Number 3.

Commander **ALLRED**. It has been moved for the acceptance of Number 3. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **MARY KABLER**. Madam Commander, Mary Kabler, Ohio 90. I second.

Commander **ALLRED**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. **SHOEMAKER** [reading]:

SECTION 4: STATE AUDIT COMMITTEE

Financial records of the state department shall be reviewed and verified by an audit committee appointed by the state commander or by an independent or certified public accountant.

Any state chairman collecting funds for special programs shall be required to give an accounting of all funds handled by her. The books of such special funds shall be audited when the treasurer's books are audited. All funds shall be kept in a bank account in the name of the state department, Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary.

If an audit committee is appointed, the committee shall consist of three members appointed by the state commander, excluding the state commander, state senior vice-commander, state treasurer, state adjutant, and state finance chairman. The committee shall be responsible for reviewing and verifying the state department's financial records at the close of each fiscal year. The financial report form, provided by National Headquarters, shall be completed by the state treasurer or the audit committee and sent to National Headquarters within 30 days following the completion of the audit.

If the total gross income of the state department exceeds $25,000, the state department financial records shall be reviewed and verified by an independent or certified public accountant. The accountant's statement or a completed financial report form shall be mailed to National Headquarters within 30 days following the completion of the audit.

Failure to file annual audits with National Headquarters will bar the state delegate from voting at an ensuing National Convention.

Madam Commander, I move for the acceptance of Section Number 4.

Commander **ALLRED**. It has been moved to accept Section Number 4. Does it have a second?

Ms. **BEATRICE ALBANESE**. Beatrice Albanese, Unit 9, New Jersey. I second the motion.

Commander **ALLRED**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion?

Ms. **JACKIE FOSSIANO**. Jackie Fossiano, District 1. On the third paragraph down I'd like to make a motion to change the three to five members, "If an audit committee is appointed, the committee shall consist of five members appointed by the state commander."

Commander **ALLRED**. Would you state that motion again?

Ms. **FOSSIANO**. Yes.

> If an audit committee is appointed, the committee shall consist of five members appointed by the state commander, excluding the state commander, state senior vice-commander, state treasurer, state adjutant and state finance chairman. The committee shall be responsible for reviewing and verifying the state department's financial records at the close of each fiscal year. The financial report form, provided by National Headquarters, shall be completed by the state treasurer or the audit committee and sent to National Headquarters within 30 days following the completion of the audit.

Commander ALLRED. Do I understand that your only change is you're changing the three members to five members?

Ms. FOSSIANO. Yes, ma'am.

Commander ALLRED. That motion is on the floor. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. JEANETTE GREELEY. Jeanette Greeley, Unit 23, Massachusetts, seconds that.

Commander ALLRED. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion?

Ms. MARGIE FREETLY. Margie Freetly, 7, Minnesota. Some of us small units cannot even get two members on the auditing committee, much less five. [Applause.]

Commander ALLRED. This is the state audit. She meant the state. Is there any further discussion?

Ms. DOROTHY PEARCE. Dorothy Pearce, Department of Louisiana. As an accountant I can verify the fact that the more people that you have on an audit committee the more confusion. [Applause.]

Commander ALLRED. Any further discussion?

Ms. NICKY MURRAY. Nicky Murray, Plymouth 72. You have to have three members sign the finance report. And it's safer to have at least five so that you will have three present at the audit.

Commander ALLRED. Any further discussion?

Ms. EHRING SEETOO. Yes, Madam Commander. Ehring Seetoo, Unit 64 in California. I urge for a No vote on this motion. [Applause.]

Ms. LOUISE BARILE. Louise Barile, Unit 73, New Jersey. Instead of changing that from three to five, have three elected and two or three alternates.

Ms. LUCILLE MCCARTHY. Madam Commander, Lucille McCarthy, Tampa 4. I suggest we vote on this at this time. I think we've had enough discussion.

Commander ALLRED. Discussion is closed. I'll call for the question. All in favor say Aye—the amendment to the amendment to put five—do you want me to read it? Okay.

> If an audit committee is appointed, the committee shall consist of five members appointed by the state commander, excluding the state commander, state senior vice-commander, state treasurer, state adjutant——

That's it. Five. We're changing it to five from three is the motion. It has a second. We're through with discussion. The Chair calls for the question. All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. The motion did not carry.

Is there any discussion on the original motion for the amendment? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion carried.

Ms. EHRING SEETOO. Madam Commander, Ehring Seetoo again from Unit 64 in California. I make a motion at this time that we accept the rest of the bylaw changes as written.

Commander **Allred**. There is a motion on the floor that we accept the remainder of the standard Bylaws changes as written. Does the motion have a second?

Ms. **Ruth White**. Madam Commander, Ruth White, Department of Maryland. I second that.

Commander **Allred**. The motion does have a second. Is there any discussion? Are you ready for the question? All in favor say Aye. All opposed, like sign. Motion is carried, they're adopted. [Applause.]

I want to thank you for participating in it. It is your Constitution and Bylaws. I know it was lengthy but it was probably a one-time thing that we had to do with the standard state Bylaws. And I thank all of you that remained for being dedicated enough to sit through that.

We have a few presentations of checks. The ones that want to present the checks, please come up. Maria has some announcements. I think Lee had a remark that she wanted to make, National Judge Advocate.

Judge Advocate **McGinnis**. I just wanted to thank all of you, and especially the committee that has worked so hard this past year. The committee did a wonderful job. I'd like to thank the ones on the committee here at the convention, and thank you all. [Applause.]

Commander **Allred**. Good job, Loneita.

Anything you'd like to say further? Loneita said she's said enough! Maria, you have announcements?

Ms. **Kathy Northrop**. Madam Commander, Kathy Northrop, Department of Arizona. I was wondering at the convention they might—it's been a beautiful convention, but it's been so cold. I think as you sit here all day long that maybe they could turn down the fans or something so that people weren't getting——

Commander **Allred**. Well, see, we're burning up up here.

Ms. **Northrop**. Well, come down here! Come on down!

Commander **Allred**. It's been so hot up here we can't breathe.

Ms. **Northrop**. Okay, I renege my question then.

Commander **Allred**. We will try to get an adjustment made to that.

Ms. **Maureen Daniels**. Madam Commander, Maureen Daniels, 73, California, District 16. There's only one question I have—and don't everybody yell at me! I wanted to ask about jewelry on caps. There's actually nothing in these Standing Rules saying you can or you cannot. Is it in your Standing Rules for your state or is it actual National Bylaws?

Commander **Allred**. It's already under the Bylaws. But you can provide in your Standing Rules if a state department—some states wear caps, some states do not. It says in Section 2 that we just adopted under "Caps, "State department shall determine and provide in their Standing Rules regulations governing the wearing of DAV Auxiliary caps."

Ms. **Joan Johnson**. Madam Commander, Joan Johnson, Unit 10, Kingman, Arizona. The question was the jewelry on the caps, the pins that they put on the caps, not the caps themselves.

Commander **Allred**. You could put that in your Standing Rules until such time as it would probably come before the committee for it to be put into National Bylaws. But that could come under your Standing Rules.

We have a presentation. Anybody have money they want to give us for the Ed Loan or Freedoms Foundation, we'll be glad to take it right now.

Ms. **Bettye Campbell**. Madam Commander, Bettye Campbell, commander Department of Arkansas. On behalf of the department I wish to give you this check for the Educational Loan Fund and from one of our units, Unit #32, a check for Carville. [Applause.]

Commander **Allred**. Thank you.

Ms. **Ruth White**. Madam Commander, Ruth White, Department of Maryland, would like to present two checks to you, one for the Educational Fund and the other one for the Freedoms Foundation. [Applause.]

Commander **Allred**. Thank you.

Member. On behalf of Lyons, Ohio, Auxiliary 50 this is for the Freedoms Foundation. [Applause.]

Commander **Allred**. Thank you. Is Phyllis Greaney in the room?

Ms. **Florence McGovern**. Florence McGovern, immediate past department commander Ohio. I wish to present this check to you for Freedoms Foundation. [Applause.]

Commander **Allred**. Thank you so much.

Ms. **Kay Yeager**. Kay Yeager, Department of Arizona. And this is for the Freedoms Foundation. [Applause.]

Commander **Allred**. Thank you.

Ms. **Patricia Huen**. Patricia Huen, Unit 1, Phoenix, Arizona. Here's a donation for the Freedoms Foundation. [Applause.]

Commander **Allred**. Thank you. Thank you so much.

Ms. **Jackie Fossiano**. Jackie Fossiano, Department of Massachusetts, District 1. Freedoms Foundation. [Applause.]

Commander **Allred**. Thank you.

Ms. **Hulda Olson**. Hulda Olson, Department of Minnesota. To the Educational Fund. [Applause.]

Commander **Allred**. Thank you.

Ms. **Marilyn Vasco**. Madam Commander, Marilyn Vasco, Department of Rhode Island. John Hanson Fund. [Applause.]

Commander **Allred**. Thank you.

Ms. **Myrna Edson**. Madam Commander, Myrna Edson, Department of Iowa. I want to present these two checks to you, one for National Freedoms Foundation and the writing program. [Applause.]

Commander **Allred**. Thank you. Is that all the presentations? Maria.

Adjutant **Tedrow**. There's extra budget reports over there and extra Bylaws, sets of Bylaws, if you would care to take some on your way out. But don't just take them and then go up to the room and throw them in the waste basket. If you can use them, take them.

All pages will wear white with their sash to the Forget-Me-Not Luncheon. And be there before 12:00 o'clock.

And outside of that, I guess that's it for now.

Commander **Allred**. I hereby declare the convention in recess until Thursday morning at 9:00 o'clock.

[Whereupon the meeting recessed at 4:55 o'clock p.m.]

THURSDAY MORNING SESSION

August 2, 1990, 9:00

National Commander SHELIA ALLRED. Take your stations. Delegates please be seated. As National Commander I hereby call this National Convention in Anaheim, California back to order.

Our Chaplin, Margaret Hass, will give our opening prayer.

Chaplain MARGARET HASS. This is the day that the Lord has made, and let us rejoice and be glad in it. It is a joy and privilege to once again welcome our Lord to our Convention. And we all experience the nearness of God's spirit and receive his blessings.

We especially ask him to bless our Commander Sheila. And may we continue to show the enthusiasm she has asked from us for our Organization, that we may achieve all our goals.

May our Organization always be in God so that we may ask for your blessing and guidance. Amen.

National Commander SHELIA ALLRED. Will National Americanism Chairman, Bonnie Newell, lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

National Americanism Chairman BONNIE NEWELL. Free your hands stand at attention and join me in the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag.

[Pledge of Allegiance.]

National Commander SHELIA ALLRED. I want to welcome you back to our final session of this National Convention. And, you know, I feel really good about it. It's all over but the shoutin' now, you know, me. [Laughter.]

The first thing I would like to do is to recognize our Immediate Past National Commander, Rose Schilpp, for the purpose of an acknowledgement. I'll get it out in a minute. Rose.

Immediate Past National Commander ROSE SCHILPP. I would like to thank Unit 19 of the Department of Virginia for a three-hundred dollar check to H.B. Deputy Hospitalized Veteran's Running Project in honor of Gladys Taylor, who just retired from many years as their Department Adjutant. Thank you. [Applause.]

National Commander SHELIA ALLRED. Thank you, Rose.

I would now like to recognize National Adjutant, Maria Tedrow, for several announcements.

National Adjutant MARIA TEDROW. First of all I have been asked to make these two acknowledgements.

SANCO has made two donations. One, to the Ed Loan Fund, oh I'm sorry, they're both to the Ed Loan Fund. One, in the name of Frieda Mooney Jones, Past National Commander, who passed away just recently.

And the other one to Clifton Ishmal, the father of Maureen Peterson.

And at this time, would Jan Archer please come forward.

National Commander SHELIA ALLRED. I think I'm being ganged up on here, I don't know——

National Officer **Jan Archer**. National Commander Sheila, we the NEC's of 1989 wish to present to you a token, 82 X 52, this is a token of our love and appreciation for you.

When you grow old and the days grow cold and the North Carolina Wind whistles. . . .

[In unison:]

> In the know and on the go. . .
> You may wrap yourself in our gift of love. Remember, we love you.

National Commander **Shelia Allred**. What is it?

National Officer **Jan Archer**. What is it. Open it up and see.

National Commander **Shelia Allred**. Stars and bars.

National Officer **Jan Archer**. I don't know. I didn't see it—it was sitting here, but I didn't see it.

National Commander **Shelia Allred**. Oh, my word, look at that.

[Beautiful quilt is presented.]

[Pause in proceedings & applause.]

National Officer **Jan Archer**. That is gorgeous. For those of you who may not know, the NEC's made the squares and we put them together and quilted it. [Applause.]

[Pause in proceedings.]

National Commander **Shelia Allred**. Oh, that is gorgeous. Oh, I love quilts. Isn't that gorgeous. Oh. Isn't that great. And they kept it such a good secret too. [Applause.]

If you'll hold off, we're going to get some pictures—people want some pictures of it.

[Pause for pictures.]

National Commander **Shelia Allred**. Thank you NEC. If anybody would like to see it after the meeting it's going to be displayed up on the grand piano. I want to thank the Assembly for allowing me to take time to share that with the NEC's for pictures and everything.

I'm going to take this time to explain something that we're going to do a little different this year. We've had quite a few firsts this year. We have passed our Standard and State Bylaws. We have a new way of presentation on the way the flags are brought in. We tried that.

And another thing that we're going to do is the Convention, after the Election and Announcements, the Convention will be adjourned. Then there will be a very, very brief recess while the National Families are brought down front and the Past National Commanders. Then I will open the National Executive Committee for purposes of Installation of the new Officers. They will be installed. The new Commander will do her acceptance speech, introduce her officers, and then she will have her opening ceremonies of the National Executive Committee.

So this is a little bit different. But what we're going to do is try to do it in accordance with our Constitution and Bylaws by closing out the Convention with the Commander that's in session. And then going in and installing the Officers and letting the Commander Elect preside over her actual National Executive Committee.

Does everybody understand? Okay, what do you think about it? [Applause.]

We may not always do it right, but it's not because we're not trying or don't know. We do try to show you the correct way and the procedure of what is to take place at a Convention. And we have always done it differently. But we thought we knew to try this to kind of get it a little more in compliance with what the Constitution and Bylaws call for.

Okay. The other day we had the National Staff do a cute little number. And I forgot to tell you something. But I said I want to go into this Election in an upbeat way, and I think they 'ought to have to do their song again. [Applause.]

All right. [Laughter.]

I've got to tell you this. On my first trip to National Headquarters, I went in, and normally when I fly I wear black, because I get whatever I eat on the plane all over me, you know. So I'll wear a black jacket or checked or whatever. So I get to the office and I walk in and I get halfway across the office and I turn around and look and every one of the girls, including Maria, were in red. [Laughter.]

They were all dressed in red. And the first thing I heard was, you got on black. So they had written this song and had practiced it. And they called me into the office and gathered around and sang it for me. And I thought it was just absolutely great. We do have a super group of girls at that National Headquarters with a super Executive Director.

And girls, I'd like to call you forward here in front to sing your little song once again. [Applause.]

Yes, we want the floor works too.

National Adjutant MARIA TEDROW. Okay. This is the sextet, Leoia Ross, Sandy Smith, Pat Kemper, Judy Hezlep, Bev Barnes, and myself. Okay.

[Sextet sings song.] [Applause.]

National Commander SHELIA ALLRED. All right, one more time with the floor works. Jim get me some pictures of these. I mean this.

[Sextet sings song.] [Laughter.] [Applause.]

We're going to go into out election of officers first, in accordance with our Convention Rules, I will call for the final reading of our Credentials Report by Vicky O'Neal.

VICKY O'NEAL. National Commander, National Officers, Delegates, and guests.

This is the last reading of the Credential's Report. We still have some units that have not been cleared for voting. As I read these numbers behind the National Banner, our Auxiliary Staff Members, and Unit Representatives must report into that before voting.

California, Unit 23; California, Unit 40; Washington, D.C., Unit 16; Kentucky, Unit 16; Massachusetts, Unit 44; Michigan, Unit 118; Missouri, Unit 62; Washington, Unit 1; Hawaii, Unit 1.

Total Units registered, we have 339. Total Departments registered, we have 44. Which made a grand total of 383. Delegates registered, 742, Alternates registered 43, guests, 76. Total of 861. Total Unit votes, 2,264.

Total Department votes 44. National Officers, Chairman, and NEC's, 25. Past National Commanders, 13. For a grand total of votes of 2,346.

National Commander **Shelia Allred**. Thank you.

I will now call on Chairman of the Nominating Committee, Sally Wilton, for the Committee's Report. [Pause in proceedings.]

National Nominating Committee Chairman **Sally Wilton**. To tell you, Commander, I had no trouble finding the Green Room this morning because the Nominating Committee has spent the whole Convention in there.

National Commander Shelia, Past National Commanders, Members of the Auxiliary, and guests. I don't know if this is the longest working committee, but I certainly feel it's the hardest. And I want to recognize the ladies on this Committee. They were a great group of ladies to work with. And I'd like to recognize Rose Schilpp, Past National Commander, who was our Advisor.

Would these ladies please rise and be recognized. And hold your applause until I'm finished reading these. And I'll do it quickly.

Phyllis Greeney, District 1; Helen Draper, District 2; Claire Nadeau, District 3; Linda Trulio, District 4; Frances Miller, District 5; Hazel Meyers, District 6; Delores Roussey, 7; Fairee Bridges, 8; Vicky Grier, 9; Carol Gray, 10; Kit Feighner, 11; Ruth Sarchi, 12; Virginia Merrifield, 13; Katherine Pearson, 14; Virginia Alford, 15; Joan Turbeville, 16; Pauline Wright, 17; 18, who is myself; 19, Mary Ann Sholly; and 20, Louise Rapisand; 21, Jan Archer. Would you please give these ladies a hand, they were great. [Applause.]

We have selected a slate of Officers, and we hope they will meet with your approval.

Commander, Myrtice Vinson Senior Vice-Commander, Claudia Roy First Junior Vice-Commander, Barbara Maldet Second Junior Vice-Commander, Bonnie Newell Third Junior Vice-Commander, Barbara Hicks Fourth Junior Vice-Commander, Jane Troutman Chaplain, Margaret Hass; and Judge Advocate, Beth Diestler Thank you, Commander.

National Commander **Shelia Allred**. I wish to thank the members of the Nominating Committee for their efforts and their time. And I would like to, at this time, to discharge the Nominating Committee, and all other Convention Committees.

At this time would all of the National Officers please leave the podium and get back to your respective districts for the purpose of nominations and elections.

I would also like to appoint 3 Tellers, if they will please come forward and get with the girls from Headquarters. Miriam Daley, Dovie Hawkins, and Sonia Baldwin. [Pause in proceedings.]

Are the Tellers in place?

You have heard the report of the Committee on Nominations.

Myrtice Vinson has been nominated by the Committee for the Office of National Commander.

Are there any other nominations?

Ms. **Freida Lynch**. Madam Commander, Frieda Lynch, Department Commander of Georgia.

I would like to approach the station, may I?

National Commander **Shelia Allred**. Please come forward. [Pause in proceedings.]

Ms. **Lynch**. National Commander, Shelia Allred, National Officers, National Executive Committee Women, Past National Commanders, Delegates, and guests.

I am indeed proud, and honored, to second the nomination for Myrtice Vinson for the Office of National Commander, 1990–91.

Myrtice is eligible for membership in the Auxiliary through her husband, Cleo, a Disabled Veteran from the Korean War. And through her brother, a Combat Wounded Veteran from the Vietnam War. Her oldest sister is a Goldstar Mother, which gave her another eligibility.

She became actively involved in the Auxiliary in 1970, and, excuse me, and joined the Raymond William's Auxiliary, Unit 50, in 1971. After attending her first State Convention she joined the Auxiliary as a life member, because she knew what the Auxiliary meant to her, and that she was committed to serving Disabled Veterans, and their families for life.

She has been involved in all phases of her Unit. Devoted all of her spare time to service the Disabled Veterans and their families. Her service to the Auxiliary is second only to God and her family. She has held all elected and appointed offices of her Unit, elected twice as Unit Commander.

In her State Department she has held the office of Chaplain, Treasurer, Judge Advocate, Third Junior Vice-Commander, First Junior Vice-Commander, Senior Vice-Commander, and Department Commander in 1980–81. She served as Finance Committee Chairman for 2 years.

On the National level, Myrtice has served as National Deputy of the AVS Chairman in 1982–83. National Executive Committee Woman of the Fifth District, 1983–85. National Chaplain, 1985–87. National Third Junior Vice-Commander, and Americanism Chairman, 1987–88. National First Junior Vice-Commander and Membership Chairman, 1988–89. And is presently serving as National Senior Vice-Commander.

Myrtice is retired giving her time to serve the organization. She is knowledgeable of the Auxiliary, dedicated and loyal to the organization, never seeking praise for her many contributions to her Unit, State Department, or community. She serves the congregation of Baptist Church as Secretary, and on the Board of Trustees. She works closely with the youth in her church and in her community.

If elected, Myrtice will represent the Auxiliary with dignity. I hope you will support our Georgia Peach, Myrtice Vinson, for National Commander, 1990–91. [Applause.]

National Commander SHELIA ALLRED. Are there any other nominations?

Hearing none. The Chair declares the nominations closed.

Adjutant, would you cast the ballot.

National Auxiliary Adjutant MARIA TEDROW. As National Auxiliary Adjutant, I hereby cast the unanimous ballot for Myrtice Vinson for the Office of National Commander of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary for the year 1990–91. [Applause.]

National Commander SHELIA ALLRED. Claudia Roy has been nominated by the Committee for the Office of National Senior Vice-Commander.

Are there any other nominations?

Past Department Commander of Vermont **Beverly Cleveland**. Madam Commander Shelia, Beverly Cleveland, Past Department Commander of Vermont. May I approach the podium, please?

National Commander **Shelia Allred**. Yes, please come forward.

Past Department Commander of Vermont **Beverly Cleveland**. Good morning.

National Commander Shelia, National Officers, Past National Commanders, Delegates, Alternates, and Guests at this Convention.

I am highly honored to second the nomination of Claudia Roy for National Senior Vice-Commander of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary for the year 1990–91.

Claudia is a life member of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary, and a Charter member of John Blake, Unit Number 15 of Brattleboro, Vermont, since 1972.

She has served as Unit Senior Vice-Commander, Commander, Adjutant, State Executive Committeewoman, Hospital and Membership Chairman. Claudia presently serves as Unit Adjutant.

On the Department level, Claudia has been Department Commander for 2 years, Adjutant for 4 years, and Convention Chairman for 5 years, and has held Chairmanships of the Hospital, Membership, Nominating, and Constitution and Bylaws Committees.

Claudia has served as a Certified Department VAVS Representative at the VA Medical Center in White River Junction, Vermont, from 1984 to 1988, where she has 5,000 volunteer hours.

Nationally, she has been elected to the offices of fourth, third, second, and first Junior Vice-Commanders, as well as Chairmanships of National Community Service, Americanism, Legislative and Membership Committees.

Claudia is employed by J.E. Mann, Incorporated, of Brattleboro, Vermont, as buyer of the Intimate Apparel, and has the support of her employer.

Claudia graduated from Thayer Higher School in Winchester, New Hampshire. She attended medical classes at Elliot Community Hospital in Kenne, New Hampshire.

Her eligibility is through her father, Clyde Gould, a Combat Wounded Veteran of World War II, and her husband, James, a Veteran of the Korean conflict.

Claudia and James have no children. You, this Auxiliary and the Disabled American Veterans are their family to whom their dedication is never-ending.

Claudia is a very caring and loving person. Though she resides in New Hampshire, she's Vermont's pride and joy. The States in District Number 3, Department of Vermont, and her Unit, give her their complete support.

Won't you all climb with Claudia. God bless and thank you. [Applause.]

National Commander **Shelia Allred**. Are there any other nominations?

Hearing none, I declare the nominations closed for the Office of National Senior Vice-Commander.

National Adjutant, will you please cast the unanimous ballot?

National Auxiliary Adjutant **Maria Tedrow**. As National Auxiliary Adjutant, I hereby cast the unanimous ballot for Claudia Roy for the Office of Senior Vice-Commander of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary for the year 1990–91. [Applause.]

National Commander Shelia Allred. Barbara Maldet has been nominated by the Committee for the Office of National First Junior Vice-Commander.

Are there any other nominations?

Senior Vice-Commander Carol McNeal. Madam Commander, I'm Carol McNeal, Senior Vice-Commander of the Department of Pennsylvania, I'm Barbara's Page. May I approach the podium?

National Commander Shelia Allred. Yes, please come forward.

Senior Vice-Commander Carol McNeal. National Commander Shelia, National Officers, Past National Commanders, Delegates, Alternates, and Guests.

In behalf of the State of Pennsylvania, I am happy to have to the opportunity of seconding the nomination of Barbara Maldet for National First Junior Vice-Commander for 1990–91.

Barbara is a Life Member of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary, West Shore Unit Number 50. She is eligible for membership through her husband, Joseph, a Navy Veteran, who is presently the Adjutant for the DAV Department of Pennsylvania.

Barbara and Joe are the parents of two sons. Matthew, who is an Electrical Engineer in Camp Hill and serves as Lt. JG in the U.S. Navy Reserves. And Mark, who graduated from the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, and will be teaching High School Chemistry in the Fall. Matthew and Mark are both enrolled in Master's Degree Programs at Penn State University.

Barbara is currently serving as Adjutant for her Unit. And she has held many offices on the Unit, District, and Department level, which includes Department Commander. On the Department level she presently serves as the Ceremonial Officer.

In the National Organization, Barbara has served for 2 years as National Junior Activities Chairman, National 4th Junior Vice-Commander and Community Service Chairman. And is presently serving as 2nd Junior Vice-Commander and Legislative Chairman.

Barbara is a Registered Nurse, having graduated second in her class from the Mercy Hospital School of Nursing in Johnstown, Pennsylvania. Her State Board examination scores were rated on the National level. She has worked in different areas of the nursing profession, including caring for geriatric and terminally ill patients.

In her community, Barbara has been involved with the Girl Scouts, and she personally achieved the "Curved Bar" rank, before going on to become a Junior Leader. She has also been involved with the Little League, Cancer Society, and the Heart Association. Church activities are important to Barbara, and she has served as President of the Women's Group and Leader of the Youth Group.

Barbara is employed by the Disabled American Veterans, Department of Pennsylvania. She is totally committed to the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary, and the help that the members provide to Veterans, their families and other Auxiliary members.

She knows the Auxiliary programs and will be a great representative of our organization. She has the full support of the entire State of Pennsylvania. And I am honored and indeed proud to be able to second her nomination as 1st Junior Vice-Commander for 1990–91. [Applause.]

National Commander **Shelia Allred**. Are there any other nominations?

Hearing none, I declare the nominations closed for the Office of National First Junior Vice.

National Adjutant, will you cast the unanimous ballot?

National Adjutant **Maria Tedrow**. As National Auxiliary Adjutant, I hereby cast a unanimous ballot for Barbara Maldet for the Office of National First Junior Vice-Commander of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary for 1990–91. [Applause.]

National Commander **Shelia Allred**. Bonita Newell has been nominated by the Committee for the Office of National Second Junior Vice-Commander.

Are there any other nominations?

Past National Commander **Pauline Wright**. Madam Commander, Pauline Wright, a Past National Commander, may I approach your station for the purpose of seconding this nomination?

National Commander **Shelia Allred**. Yes you may, will you please come forward.

Past National Commander **Pauline Wright**. National Commander Shelia, National Officers, Past National Commanders, Delegates, and guests assembled.

It is a great honor to have the privilege of seconding the nomination of Bonnie Newell, from the great State of Colorado, as our National Second Junior Vice-Commander for the year 1990–91.

Bonnie is a Life Member of the George G. Klumker Auxiliary Number 22, Wheat Ridge, Colorado, where she has served as Unit Commander, Vice-Commanders, Adjutant for 4 years, All Unit Chairmanships, Executive Board, and wherever she is needed.

She is eligible for membership through her late husband, Percy, who was injured while serving his country in the U.S. Navy during World War II, while leaving his sinking ship in the Mediterranean Sea. Also through her brother, who received a purple heart while in the Navy, Pacific Area, during the same War while saving a buddy.

On the State Department level she has served as State Adjutant, State Vice-Commanders, and State Commander, various Chairmanship and committees.

On the National level, Alternate NEC for 2 years, National Deputy VAVS Chairman 1 year, National VAVS Chairman 2 years, National Community Service Chairman, National Americanism Chairman, National Page for 4 years, National Musician, and many Convention committees. National 4th Junior Vice, and she is now completing her second year as our National Third Junior Vice-Commander.

Bonnie has been in Sales and Management with Merle Norman Cosmetics for many years, who gives her their full support. She is the mother of 4 children, one son, an attorney, specializing in Criminal Law in Denver, Colorado. A second son, an Insurance Broker, and President of a Local Union. One daughter, as Owner and President of a Building Maintenance Company. The second daughter has a Junior Executive Position with United Artists Cooperation. All living in the Denver, Colorado area.

As a youth, Bonnie was active in the Rainbow Girls of the Masonic Lodge, achieving the office of Worthy Advisor. She is a Life Member of the Alpha Zeta Beta Sorority, where she has held all top offices.

Bonnie has always been active in all levels of our organization. However, the past year her activities have been somewhat curtailed because of serious illness and death of her husband 4 months ago.

A most gracious lady, always a smile for everyone she meets. She mixes well and always has a kind word for all. She is most knowledgeable of our Auxiliary programs, very willing to serve in a most capable manner, when and where she is needed.

The 4 States in District number seven join me in asking you to elect Bonita H. Newell as the National Second Junior Vice-Commander for the year 1990–91. We would appreciate your full support, and thank you. [Applause.]

National Commander SHELIA ALLRED. Are there any other nominations?

Hearing none, I declare the nominations closed for the Office of National Second Junior Vice.

National Adjutant, will you cast the unanimous ballot for this position?

National Auxiliary Adjutant MARIA TEDROW. As National Auxiliary Adjutant, I hereby cast a unanimous ballot for Bonita Newell for the Office of National Second Junior Vice-Commander of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary for the year 1990–91. [Applause.]

National Commander SHELIA ALLRED. Barbara Hicks has been nominated by the Committee for the Office of National Third Junior Vice-Commander.

Are there any other nominations?

MARY CAVERT. National Commander Shelia, Mary Cavert, Ohio 90. May I approach your podium?

National Commander SHELIA ALLRED. Yes, please come forward.

MARY CAVERT. National Commander Shelia, National Officers, Past National Commanders, Delegates, and Alternates, and guests at this Convention.

The State of Ohio proudly seconds the nomination of Barbara Hicks for National Third Junior Vice-Commander of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary. Barbara has been a member since 1962 and a Life Member of Hardin County Number 46 since 1970. And she is eligible through her husband.

Barbara is the mother of 2 children. Jacqueline, who is married and has 2 daughters. Jackie is a Life Member of Hardin County 46. And Nichole and Tiffany are both Junior Members. Jeffrey lives in Indiana and is a Pressroom Manager for USA today there.

Barbara is currently serving as Junior Vice-Commander for her Unit, and has held most offices on this level. She's held District Commanders and most of the Department Officers, serving as Department Commander in 1969 to 1970. She is Chairman of the Credential Committee of the Women's Security Forum in Washington, D.C. And she currently is serving as Fourth National Junior Vice-Commander and Community Service Chairman. Barbara works for Hechinger's, which is a Lumber Yard, and is Cashier at the Service

Desk. Barbara is a member of the Methodist Church and Order of Eastern Star.

I am very proud and honored to second the nomination of Barbara Hicks as National Third Junior Vice-Commander for the ensuing year, 1990–91. Thank you. [Applause.]

National Commander SHELIA ALLRED. Are there any other nominations?

Hearing none, I declare the nominations closed for the Office of National Third Junior Vice.

National Adjutant, will you please cast the unanimous ballot for the Office of National Third Junior Vice?

National Adjutant MARIA TEDROW. As National Adjutant, I hereby cast the unanimous ballot for Barbara Hicks for the Office of National Third Junior Vice-Commander of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary for the year 1990–91. [Applause.]

National Commander SHELIA ALLRED. Jane Troutman has been nominated by the Committee for the Office of National Fourth Junior Vice-Commander.

Are there any other nominations?

North Carolina Department Commander JUDY TOLAR. Madam Commander.

National Commander SHELIA ALLRED. Yes.

North Carolina Department Commander JUDY TOLAR. Judy Tolar, North Carolina Department Commander and Member of Unit 20 Greensboro. May I approach the podium please?

National Commander SHELIA ALLRED. Yes you may, please come forward.

North Carolina Department Commander JUDY TOLAR. Commander, National Officers, Past National Commanders, Delegates, and guests to this National Convention.

On behalf of the State of North Carolina, I am proud to read the acceptance speech for Jane Troutman for Fourth Junior Vice-Commander.

Based on her qualification and years of experience as a member and leader of this organization. Jane is a Life Member of Unit 27, Concord, North Carolina, and has served in all offices on the Unit level, including Unit Commander, 1980–81, 1982–83. And she was again elected to this position for the year 1990–91.

She has also served as District Adjutant for 2 years and Deputy VAVS Representative for 2 years. On the State level she has served as Americanism Chairman, Legislative Chairman, Membership Chairman, Chairman of the Constitution and Bylaws, Chairman of the Finance Committee, and Chairman of the Department and Unit Schools of Instruction. She has served as Department Second Junior Vice-Commander, First Junior Vice-Commander, Senior Vice-Commander, and Department Commander.

During her year as Department Commander she appointed Junior Members to serve as Flag Bearers, Banner Bearers, and Pages. Special activities were planned for the Juniors after the meetings at Department Conventions. This resulted in increasing activity on the Unit and State level.

Jane is presently serving her third term as State Judge Advocate. Jane is also currently serving as National History Chairman, 1989–1990. She has served on numerous National Convention Committees, including National Constitution and Bylaws Committee in 1986, and Nominating Committee in 1987–88 and '89.

She served this year as Tarheel Celebration Committee Chairman where she was in charge of the Testimonial Banquet and function for National Commander, Shelia Allred. During this Convention she was elected to serve for the ensuing year as Chairman of the Southern Caucus Breakfast.

She is a Charter member of the American Business Women's Association, the American Legion, National Association of Women in Metals, but the DAV Auxiliary is her first love. In the Community, Jane is on the Board of Directors for the Greater Piedmont Chapter of the Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Foundation. And is a Project Business Consultant in the Junior Achievement Program.

Jane is a widow, and is presently employed as an Account Manager for Nomasco Diversified Steel Services. She has the full support of her employer for this National office. She is a member of Rocky Ridge United Methodist Church.

Jane comes from a family of 13 children, five of her brothers are Disabled Veterans. Jane is a graduate of Harrisburg High School, Central Piedmont Community College, where she majored in Accounting. And in conjunction with the Central Piedmont Association, she holds a Certificate in Principles of Supervision.

Jane truly lives by the four principles of our organization. If elected she will fulfill her obligation as National Fourth Junior Vice-Commander with honor and dignity. [Applause.]

National Commander SHELIA ALLRED. Are there any other nominations?

Hearing none, I declare the nominations closed.

Will the National Adjutant please cast the unanimous ballot for this office.

National Auxiliary Adjutant MARIA TEDROW. As National Auxiliary Adjutant, I hereby cast a unanimous ballot for Jane Troutman for the Office of National Fourth Junior Vice-Commander of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary for the year 1990–91. [Cheers and applause.]

National Commander SHELIA ALLRED. Margaret Hass has been nominated by the Committee for the Office of National Chaplain.

Are there any other nominations?

Past NEC Past Department Commander of Minnesota MIRIAM KISER. Madam Chairman, Miriam Kiser, Past NEC, Past Department Commander of Minnesota, may I approach the podium please?

National Commander SHELIA ALLRED. Yes you may, please come forward.

Past NAC Past Department Commander of Minnesota MIRIAM KISER. National Commander Shelia, National Officers, Past National Commanders, Delegates, Alternates, and friends.

I am proud to second the nomination of Margaret Hass for National Chaplain. Margaret's eligibility is through her husband, Vic. They have 3 children, 1 son and 2 daughters. Margaret is a Life Member of Minot Number 4, North Dakota. Their daughters and their 4 granddaughters are members of the Minot Unit.

Margaret has been active in the Auxiliary for 15 years, having attended each National Convention. She has served many offices and Chairmanships, including Unit Department Commander, Fourteenth District National Committeewoman, when it was the Tenth District, National History Chairman, and National Chaplain.

You know, I've been up here many times and I've never been this nervous before. I thought it would be a piece of cake again.

Anyway, the Auxiliary Members of District 14, which include North and South Dakota, Minnesota, and Montana, are very proud of Margaret. And we ask your support for her nomination. Thank you. [Applause.]

National Commander SHELIA ALLRED. Are there any other nominations?

Hearing none, I declare the nominations closed for the Office of National Chaplain.

National Adjutant, would you cast the unanimous ballot.

National Auxiliary Adjutant MARIA TEDROW. As National Auxiliary Adjutant, I hereby cast a unanimous ballot for Margaret Hass for the Office of National Auxiliary Chaplain of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary for the year 1990–91. [Applause.]

National Commander SHELIA ALLRED. Beth Diestler has been nominated by the Committee for the Office of National Judge Advocate.

Are there any other nominations?

Department of Iowa MYRNA EDSON. Commander Shelia, Myrna Edson, Department of Iowa. May I please approach the podium?

National Commander SHELIA ALLRED. Yes you may, please come forward.

Department of Iowa MYRNA EDSON. Madam Commander Shelia, Officers, NEC's, Members and guests.

I am so proud to second the nomination for Beth Diestler from the State of Iowa. Beth Diestler joined the DAV Auxiliary from her husband, Bruce, which is a Vietnam Vet. Her father was a DAV and a Vet from World War II.

Elizabeth is a Life Member of the Auxiliary. Elizabeth served as National History and Publicity Chairman. She has served on several National Committees. Elizabeth was an Alternate NEC and an NEC. She represents the Iowa Department Commander and served as all officers in her Unit.

Elizabeth's community service works includes mental health, volunteer women, partner's group, and Advisory Board Members of the Hawkeye Institute of Technology. Elizabeth has been a long associate of American Institute of Parliamentarian, and the National Association of Parliamentarian.

Beth loves to talk on the phone, and if you try to get her, you can't, her line is busy. And follows up with letters and fax copies.

Beth will bring much honor to your National Officer. As the Department Commander of Iowa, I am so proud to nominate Beth Diestler. [Applause.]

National Commander SHELIA ALLRED. Are there any other nominations?

Hearing none, I declare the nominations closed for the Office of National Judge Advocate.

National Adjutant, will you cast the unanimous ballot for this position.

National Auxiliary Adjutant **Maria Tedrow**. As National Auxiliary Adjutant, I hereby cast the unanimous ballot for Beth Diestler, for the Office of National Judge Advocate of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary for the year 1990–91. [Applause.]

National Commander **Shelia Allred**. Thank you, ladies. That election didn't take long, did it?

Now, I would like to call on our National Sergeant at Arms, Charlene Meeks. Would you please come forward for the purpose of introduction of the Pages.

Tellers, thank you very much, you may be dismissed.

Please join me in a round of applause for the working women at this Convention. [Applause.]

They've worked the back doors, they give out tickets, they've carried, they've hauled water, they've pushed chairs, they've been everything that's needed to be done. [Applause.]

National Sergeant at Arms **Charlene Meeks**. Good morning everybody.

Audience. Morning.

National Sergeant at Arms **Charlene Meeks**. National Commander Shelia, it's been an honor and a privilege to serve you at this convention. I hope we made you proud. When we worked at it that was our goal. And I hope that we served the purpose to each and every one of you that we're here for.

I'm very proud of the ladies that I've worked with this year. The personal Pages and the NEC's have been cooperative, and they've been a great help. And I'd like to introduce them right now. As they're introduced would you step forward and then step back please. Would you please hold your applause until the end.

National Commander, Shelia Allred's Pages are:

Terra Allred Nola Paul, and Susan Henry Myrtice Vinson's Pages was Vicky Greer.

Claudia Roy's Page, Beverly Cleveland.

Barbara Maldet's Page, Carol McNeal.

Bonnie Newell's Page, Betty Shropshire.

And, Barbara Hick's Page was Ailsa Thomas.

Margaret Hass's Page was Miriam Kiser.

And, Lee McGinnis's Page was Debbie Colvard.

And that was the personal Page's that have been taking care of their officers this year. [Applause.]

Okay, the NEC's have been:

District 1, Betty Victorine.

District 2, Stella Gnatek District 3, Ann Young District 4, Louise Jacklin District 5, Fran Miller District 6, Annie Randolph District 8, Esther Dupre District 9, Liz Colson District 10, Lucille Griffin District 11, Virginia Gleason District 13, Virginia Merrifield District 14, Shirley Larson District 15, Virginia Alford District 16, Melba Morgan District 17, Yvonne McCarty District 18, Louise Ellis District 19, Sarah LaPlante, sorry Sarah.

District 20 was Alternate NEC, Katie Kripe, and she's not here with us, she had to leave.

And, District 21, Jan Archer. [Applause.]

And what are we Pages? [In unison.]

In the know and on the go. All over the convention.

[Applause.]

I also want to thank the ladies for being so understanding, because they've been playing switcherooze on me with names, or I with them. They've been so understanding about the names, and I think each and everyone of them are just a fabulous bunch of ladies. Thank you, Shelia. [Applause.]

National Commander **Shelia Allred**. Charlene, you've done an excellent job, and Pages, NEC's, I want to personally thank you for a job well done. [Applause.]

I also want to thank Carolyn Cox our Musician. And Chris Williams, who was also the Musician at the Forget-Me-Not Luncheon and sang. Thank you Carolyn, thank you Chris. [Applause.]

I'd also like to recognize the National Flag and Banner Bearers, Renee Jones and Judy Tolar. Would you stand. Thank you ladies for carrying our National Colors. [Applause.]

Are there any other business to come before this convention?

Hearing none, I will call on the National Adjutant for Announcements.

National Auxiliary Adjutant **Maria Tedrow**. I have several announcements. So, I would appreciate it if you would listen.

Virginia, Department of Virginia and Puerto Rico, will you please go to the office and pick up your history books, because they are getting ready to pack things up and ship them out of the office, and if you wait too long you may not be able to get in there. Would you please pick up your history books.

The Fall Conference will be at the Clarion Hotel, September the 27th to the 30th. And the room rate will be 52 dollars single or double.

The 1991 National Convention will be in New Orleans, Louisiana, July the 27th——[Applause.]——to August the 1st, 1991. It will be at the Sheraton Hotel. And the room rates, at this time, are 68 dollars plus 11 percent sales tax.

All newly elected Officers, Line Officers, and NEC's are to meet in the Green Room. That's the room where the Nominating Committee spent so much time. And that's where some of us were this morning. The newly elected officers and all the NEC's are to meet in the Green Room at 6:45 this evening.

The elected Line Officers are to meet at 2:45 p.m. outside by the pool on the 5th floor, where they're going to throw you all in. [Laughter.]

You're to meet on the 5th floor, outside by the pool, at 2:45 p.m. for the purpose of having pictures taken.

And, I believe at this time—there will be a closed Executive Session immediately following the National Executive Committee Meeting.

And we would like to alert, at this time, the Department of Michigan Officers who will wait outside. Any members from Texas 29, plus the Department of Texas and Florida Unit 30 and 28. But that will be during the closed Executive Session.

Thank you, Commander.

National Commander **Shelia Allred**. I want to share something with you. This is Hazel Meyer's award from the Past National Commanders. The Past National Commander's award for the outstanding member. Isn't that gorgeous, a gold tray, it is just gorgeous. Congratulations, again, Hazel. Fantastic. [Applause.]

We thought some may have not seen it.

HAZEL MEYERS. National Commander Shelia, may I just say one word?

National Commander **SHELIA ALLRED.** Yes, Ma'am, you sure may.

HAZEL MEYERS. I would just like to take this opportunity before the new officers are installed, to thank each and every one of you, especially the Past National Commanders and National Adjutant Maria, and Commander Shelia, for all—for the wonderful reception that they have given me. And especially for this honor, which I accepted for all of you.

But I would like to thank all of the Delegates in here, and especially the men too from the—over here on the other side, who came to me all during this week and thanked me for what I have done. I need no thanks for this. But I am indeed grateful to all of you. And next year I hope to be able to stand in New Orleans and congratulate the person who wins this award at that time, and all of you deserve to take this award home. Thank you.

National Commander **SHELIA ALLRED.** Thank you, Hazel. [Applause.]

We have one more announcement.

National Auxiliary Adjutant **MARIA TEDROW.** I would you to know at this time that the Professional Sextet that performed down here this morning has gotten their first fee, and we made a total of a dollar-thirty-eight-cents, which we want to donate to the Ed Loan Fund. [Applause.]

Thank you.

National Commander **SHELIA ALLRED.** There being no other business to come before this convention, I will now call for the Chaplain to give our closing prayer before we adjourn.

And as I said, this is going to be very, very brief intermission before we go into the National Executive Committee, for the first thing is the presentation of officers. Please do not leave.

National Chaplain **MARGARET HASS.** Heavenly Father, another year is starting for our Auxiliary. Another group of dedicated leaders elected. Another time of planning and preparing for a year of sharing, caring, giving, and doing. Guide these leaders. Have them plan their work with Your teachings always in their mind. Have them be gracious, thoughtful, caring, and loving. Make them be ever aware that leadership consists of harmony, good sense, and courtesy. Stay by their side in their travels, or in their homes. Guide them, care for them, love them, and keep us all in the protection of Thy hands. Amen.

National Commander **SHELIA ALLRED.** Now, as National Commander of the Disabled American Veteran's Auxiliary, I hereby declare the 68th National Convention Adjourned.

Thank you for coming. [Applause.]

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